Central VOICE

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2007

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HARRISBURG GALLERY WALK 2007
SEPTEMBER 9

Tolerance Pays: Gay Games Kicked $50 – 80 Million into Chicago Economy

The 2006 Gay Games contributed $50 to $80 million to Chicago's local economy, with some estimating that another 10 years of positive LGBT tourism visibility will generate millions more dollars in the long term.

One year after Chicago hosted nearly 12,000 sport and cultural participants at the 2006 Gay Games, Chicago Games, Inc., (CGI) the host organization for the event, announced today that it has completed the post-Games fundraising and wind down process and that the 2006 Gay Games broke even.

Such a positive financial result reverses a 20-year trend, having not been achieved since Gay Games II in 1986. CGI accomplished the result with 2 fewer years planning time than most Gay Games.

"We are extremely grateful to our many donors, sponsors, volunteers, partners and vendors whose commitment and contributions made today's announcement possible," said Tracy Baim, CGI board Co-Vice Chair and leader of the wind-down efforts. "Each deserves the appreciation of our city and the worldwide LGBT sports community."

Financial Promises Kept

"In 2003 when we launched the bid to host the 2006 Gay Games, we promised our local LGBT community, the City of Chicago, and the worldwide LGBT sports movement that the 2006 Gay Games would break even financially," said Sam Coady. "We also made the commitment to leave a lasting and positive legacy for future

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Dine Out for HIV Sept. 26

Please join AIDS Community Alliance in the fight against HIV/AIDS September 26 when the regional organization hosts its 16th annual South Central PA Dine Out signature fundraising event

ACA uses funds raised from the event to stem the tide of HIV disease and to continue providing care and supportive services to individuals and families. The agency provides case management, access to medical care and life-saving medicines, prevention, outreach, housing assistance, and food assistance. *ACA makes a difference every day in the lives of people living every day.*

Restaurants throughout south central Pennsylvania participate in the event by donating 25% of food orders from 5 pm to close. Funds raised support ACA, United Services Programs Partners, Caring Together in York County, and Planned Parenthood of Central PA's HIV Peer Education Program.

A partial list of participating restaurants includes Passage to India, Mangia Qui & Suba, Zephyr Express, Olde Greenfield Inn, Molly's Pub and the Belvedere Inn. A complete list of restaurants in available at www.dineoutsouthcentralpa.org.

Help make the evening a success.

CDC Adds Gay & Lesbian Page to Web Site

America's gay and lesbian population comprises a diverse community with disparate health concerns. Major health issues for gay men are HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, substance abuse, depression, and suicide.

Gay male adolescents are two to three times more likely than their peers to attempt suicide. Some evidence suggests lesbians have higher rates of smoking, overweight, alcohol abuse, and stress than heterosexual women.

The issues surrounding personal, family, and social acceptance of sexual orientation can place a significant burden on mental health and personal safety says the Healthy People 2010 published by the US Dept. of Health & Human Service.

The new page links with easy to read web pages on issues women's health issues, including The Mautner Project, and topics of concern to men, and transgender individuals.

Contact: www.cdc.gov/lgbthealth or CDC-INFO - 1-800-CDC-INFO; 1-888-232-6348 TTY; E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov.

Community Invited

Gay & Lesbian Switchboard to Reorganize September 27

The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg (GLSH) is poised to reorganize at a meeting on Sept. 27, 7-9 PM at the Giant Food Stores Community Room, 2nd Floor, 3301 Trindle Road, Camp Hill.

Historically, GLSH's mission is to operate an information resource center for central Pennsylvania's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities. The Switchboard operates telephone and internet information services and conducts other special projects to deliver information about, and to, the glbt communities, including Harrisburg, Lancaster, York, Reading, Williamsport and State College.

The call for reorganization follows a meeting of community leaders held Aug. 4 at Roxy's Restaurant. In attendance to discuss the reorganization were the Switchboard's current leadership, The Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, LGBT Center Coalition Board, Common Roads, Trans Central, Lavender Newsletter, Women's Circle, Central Voice, Positive Opportunities,

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Jerry L. Riggleman
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895 Chique's Rd, Suite K
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FROM ROBERT HOOBLER, EXIT PLATINUM PLUS REALTY, BROKER/OWNER

"Hello Jerry, I want to thank you and Russel for a job well done. You were able to keep me informed of what the buyer needed and what their thoughts and goals were during the home buying process. I thank you for your professionalism and getting all the buyers concerns worked out. The best thing about working with you is when you say things like we had a small issue and you resolved it before the buyer or I even knew about it.
I LOVE IT!! I love working with you! Keep up the great work and thank you for all of your hard work!"

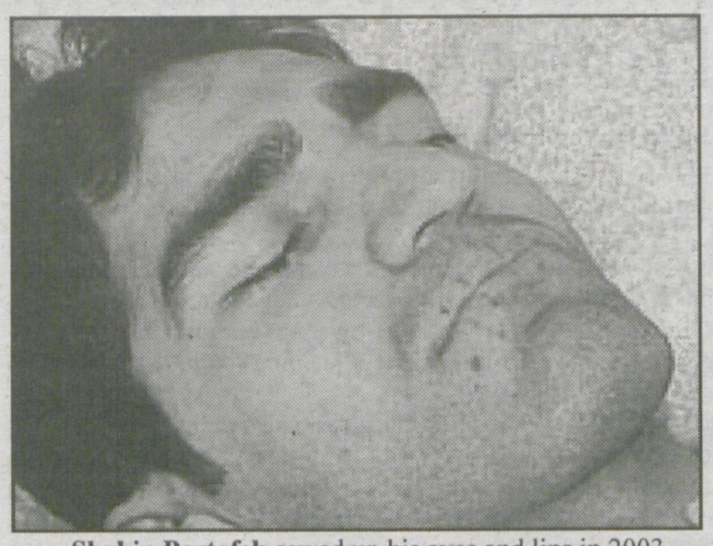
FROM GREG ALLEN, REMAX REALTY PROFFESIONALS, REALTOR

"Jerry will ask the right questions to better understand your goals and prepare you to make your homebuying experience easy. Jerry and Primary Lending will cut the "red tape" out of the situation. He will shop to get you the best legitimate deal, and most of all, Jerry makes your dream a reality!! Thank you Jerry!!"

FROM YOLANDA ROTHENBERGER, CENTURY 21 PISCIONERI, REALTOR

"Russel and Jerry make the process run smoothly every time. When issues arise, they always handle them, and make it look easy. The first time homebuyers that I have dealt with love working with Russel and Jerry because they are always willing to take the time needed to not only explain the process, but also to make sure that the loan they are putting together is the one that best suits each customer's individual needs. Russel and Jerry, thank you for making my job easier and taking excellent care of my customers."

"How I Escaped from Torture in Iran"



Shahin Portofeh sewed up his eyes and lips in 2003.

By Russell Joslin

An asylum seeker who was deported to Iran in 2004 has been describing how he managed to escape from custody and make his way back to the UK.

In this three-part series, the BBC News Website follows Shahin Portofeh's story, from deportation and alleged torture in Iran, to his escape and flight to the UK in an arduous and dangerous journey across Turkey, Greece and Italy.

Shahin Portofeh was so scared at the prospect of being deported from Coventry back to Iran that he sewed up his eyes and lips in July 2003 in an effort to draw attention to his case.

Having had a gay relationship, Portofeh, now 27, knew he faced the prospect of being repeatedly lashed and then executed if he was returned to his homeland, where homosexuality is illegal.

But the Home Office decided to deport him, sending him back to Tehran in 2004.

Portofeh described his terror on the day he thought might be his last as a free man.

"Just a few minutes later an immigration officer walked into the room and said: 'We're going to deport you to Iran.'

"I was begging them, asking them: 'Please don't deport me' but straight away they took me to the airport and the very same day they deported me back to Tehran."

Portofeh said that the ill treatment began as soon as he touched down.

"When I arrived there straight away they put me in the airport detention centre and they kept me there two days.

Sixty Lashes

"It was really, really cold without any glass in the windows. It was snowing - I was really cold - I only had my T-shirt on and they kept me two days there without any food.

"My profile was handed to the NSA - the National Security Agency.

"They tortured me, beat me up, asked me what I was doing in England, who was supporting me, whose idea was it to stitch up my face and lips and be against the Iranian government. "They didn't show me any mercy... kicking me, punching me and sometimes using their batons to beat me up.

"They just beat me up and made ready my case to the court. The judge sentenced me to 60 lashes the same day."

Interviewees Wanted for Television Documentary

Lou Reda Productions, Located in Easton, PA, is producing a television documentary on the USS New Jersey.

The production company is looking to interview several individuals who: 1) Served in ground forces in Vietnam and feel the presence of the Battleship New Jersey had a direct effect in keeping them alive (i.e., the coverage she provided had a direct effect in keeping hostile attacks that would have potentially proved deadly at bay) 2) Was a member of the Marine detachment serving onboard the battleship in 1983, at the time of the Beirut barracks attack.

If you were involved in either of these incidents and would be interested in participating please contact Liz Wambold via email at liz@louredaproductions.com.

PA Cited

If You're Poor – Don't Vote

State welfare offices across the country are not offering millions of low-income Americans the opportunity to register to vote when applying for public assistance despite a federal law requiring them to do so, according to an analysis of a recent federal voting registration report and experts who say the Department of Justice and states are to blame.

Pennsylvania was cited in a 2005 report.

"In January 2005, we had a 10-year report, which documented the 59 percent decline from 1995 through 2004," according to Scott Novakowski, senior policy analyst at Demos, a centrist public policy group based in New York. He cited violations from Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Tennessee. "John Conyers (now the House Judiciary Committee chairman) and 29 other representatives asked Attorney General Alberto Gonzales to look into this, and there was no response."

"It's huge. It's another area where the administration is failing us," said Donna Brazile, chair of the Democratic National Committee's Voting Rights Institute, speaking of the Department of Justice's oversight of the nation's voter registration laws. "They are not pushing states to recognize their voter registration responsibilities."

At the same time, the Justice Department's Voting Section, which enforces voting rights and supervises elections in some states, is pressuring 10 states to do more to purge voter rolls - or remove ineligible voters - before the 2008 presidential election, according to letters sent to state election officials this spring.

"We conducted an analysis of each state's total voter registration numbers as a percentage of citizen voting age population," wrote John Tanner, the Department of Justice Voting Section chief, in an April 18, 2007, letter to North Carolina's top election official. "We write now to assess the changes in your voter registration list ... and the subsequent removal of persons no longer eligible to vote."

Cynthia Magnuson, a Justice Department spokeswoman, confirmed in an e-mail that similar letters had been sent to 10 states, but did not

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PA League of Women Voters Elects President

Andrea Mulrine, former president of Lackawanna County League of Women Voters, was elected president of the State League. She will serve a two year term. A league member since 1999, Ms. Mulrine has worked on many voter education initiatives over the past several years. She is the Director of Development Operations, University of Scranton.

Ms. Mulrine will lead the state organization's continuing efforts to address judicial and legislative reform, monitor implementation of federally mandated election reform and provide voter services.

Chapter delegates elected Mulrine at the organization's 47th Biennial State League Convention. The convention theme, "Democracy = Action", focused on capacity-building workshops and panels that dealt with best practices for debates, increasing League membership, and leadership training. Other sessions addressed legislative issues including universal health care and energy.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The delegates to the convention representing over 2,800 members of 37 local Leagues throughout the state, adopted the program initiatives for the next two years.

Contact: Bonita Hoke, executive director, 717.234.1576 x 15.

Appalachian Brewing Company

8th Annual Heavyword Poetry Winners Announced

The Heavyword Society's 8th Annual Heavyword Poetry Contest were recently announced.

Winners are:

1st Place: Ryan Mergen, Baltimore, MD, his 3rd consecutive win.

2nd Place: Victorious, Harrisburg, PA, competing in his first slam.

3rd Place: Kim Allen, Chambersburg, PA

4th Place: Dawn Saylor, Steelton,PA

5th Place: Father, Jonestown, PA

People's Choice Award: Iya Isoke

The evening proved competitive. The event had not one, but two "sudden death" tie-breakers for 3rd place between Kim and Dawn and also for 5th place between Debberae, Rich, Father, and Kristina.

The 6th through 10th place finalists also received prizes.They were:

6th Place: Kristina Mellinger, Carlisle, PA

7th Place: Deberrae Streett, Stewartstown, PA

8th Place: Rich Hemmings, Stewartstown, PA

9th Place: Iya Isoke, Harrisburg, PA

10th Place: Dan Craig, Steelton, PA

The drama played out before an enthusiastic crowd of 100-plus poetry fans.

Special thanks to: Jodi Marciano, Mike Van Jura, Artie Tafoya, and everyone at Appalachian Brewing Company (including our many servers); to all of our sponsors for their prize donations; all of our volunteers; and our five esteemed judges: Alexis Dow, Maria James, Clay Rowland, Dana Sauers, and Keith Snow.

The group thanked host Jason Moffitt, who hosted his round after eight years at the mike.

Central Pa Womyn's Chorus Annual Spaghetti Dinner

The Central Pa Womyn's Chorus cordially invites you to our annual spaghetti dinner on October 20, 4:30-8:30 PM at Colonial Park UCC - off of Devonshire Rd. Tickets: $10 for adults, $5.00 for seniors & students, children under 10 free. See chorus members for tickets or purchase at the door.

Bountiful Menu

Includes spaghetti (vegetarian or with meat), fresh salad, garlic bread, desserts de jour, & beverages (gluten free noodles upon request). For your convenience & busy schedule, take out is available. Or allow us to serve you! Don't miss out on a great dinner while spending time with your friends!

Raffle Items

Outstanding prizes once again! Start working on your Christmas list now.

Cost: $5.00 for six tickets.

Information and future events: www.cpwchorus.org

Letters to the Editor

Reed Absent Again

Dear Editor,

I heard at Pride that Harrisburg Mayor Steve Reed was again not available to participate in the parade or Pride. I was told he always schedules himself away at a baseball event or something like that. I have a suggestion for him. Change your schedule next year. If Gov. Ed Rendell can work the event into his busy schedule every year, so can you. You'll go to the opening of a drawer to cut a ribbon. How about supporting a community that adds so much to the region? Just because you go to a gay celebration doesn't make you gay, although as Seinfeld said, "Not that there's anything wrong with that."

Ben

Awesome

Dear Editor,

The paper is awesome as usual.

Derek Cordier, Esquire

New Clients

Dear Editor,

Thank you for designing the beautiful ads. I like the personal touch your artist added. As a result, I've gotten some new clients from advertising in Central VOICE.

Richard Gibble
B. G. Studios

Great Publicity

Dear Editor,

Thanks for all the great PR you give to the Art Association in the pages of Central VOICE. We deeply appreciate your coverage!

Carrie Wissler-Thomas, President
Art Association of Harrisburg

Enough Already

Dear Editor,

Is anyone else sick and tired of how many times the City of Harrisburg shuts down inner city streets for events? These events are important fundraisers for charitable groups. That's a good thing. On the other hand, let's not forget that the city is also home to families. Let's not eat into the quality of life for taxpaying citizens by creating an inconvenience so often. How about some other "off the street" location?

Nancy

Lost Cause?

Dear Editor,

I'm pretty much an optimist but I've been watching our lack luster General Assembly blow the chance to show leadership time and time again. Is Pennsylvania a lost cause? We just can't seem to get much right no matter what. We have too many municipalities. Too many school districts. Too many narrow minded elected officials entrenched in their little fiefdoms.

Brian

Central VOICE
Central to your life.

Publisher & Editor
Frank Pizzoli
PosOps@aol.com

Correspondents
Christopher Tittel, Key West
Winnie McCroy, New York City
Michael Petrelis, San Francisco

Contributing Writers
DJ Barry
John Barnett
Derek Cordier
Kristen Richards
Yvonne Small
Sharon Muzio
Ann Elia Stewart

Columnists
Libby Post, Q Syndicate

ADVERTISING
Kristen Richards
Account Executive
717-576-4326
Ock1127@aol.com

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Middletown, PA
717-944-4628
www.pressandjournal.com
info@pressandjournal.com

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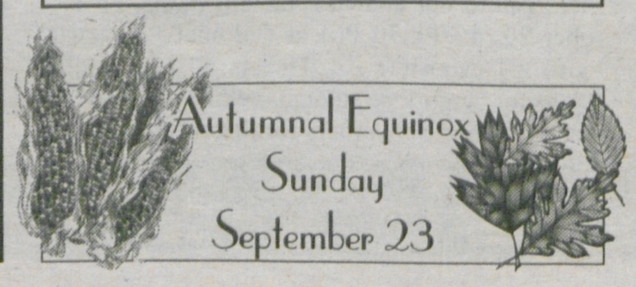
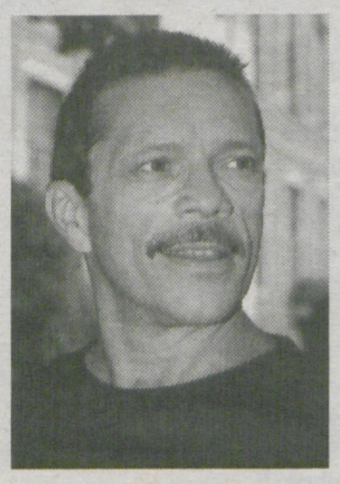
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GAY AND LESB AN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A veteran, 73, wears a protective flap over his ear while President Bush and V.P. Cheney address the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Schools Have a Responsibility to Protect



By Frank Pizzoli, Publisher

Schools have a responsibility to protect students and staff. Schools must protect all students and staff, even glbt people in their environment.

With the start of a new school year, I ask anyone active in a school - PTA parents, teachers, coaches, volunteers, college-age student teachers, and school board officials – to be more aware of homophobic slurs.

I ask you to go one step further by explaining to children that slurs are not acceptable.

By analogy: If a kid wanted to soil a classmate's reputation by saying his clothes or behavior are "so African American," we'd freak As we should. If an adult overheard a child describing someone's behavior as "Oh, that's so Jewish," we'd rush in to correct.

If students don't understand why slurs are unacceptable, then take a moment to mentor. That's what adults do. If, as an authority figure, you hear slurs and do not intervene, then ask yourself why you weren't offended. Could it be you agree? Ask yourself if verbally abusing glbt students and staff is okay with you? If gay or other slurs are okay with you, then please consider changing your outlook or your profession. Kids deserve better. Don't you agree?

VOICE box

My uncle says "Some things never change. Pennsylvania's one of them." I'm thinking maybe Pennsylvania is a lost cause. With a zillion municipalities and schools districts and no leadership from our General Assembly, we might as well outsource ourselves.

Email your thoughts to Central VOICE: posops@aol.com

Tolerance Pays continued

Gay Games hosts - a sound business model upon which future Gay Games could be built. We are proud today to have fulfilled those promises."

The Gay Games have always been a boon for the local economy. Nevertheless, the past three Gay Games host committees lost significant amounts of money, threatening the future of the quadrennial sports & culture festival. For the first time ever, the Gay Games also faced a competing LGBT sports event. Held in Montreal just one week after the Gay Games, that competing event's host organization ended up losing several million dollars.

Chicago's business model differentiated itself by dramatically increasing corporate partnerships, relying significantly upon volunteer professionals and pro bono services, establishing a sponsored worldwide marketing and media campaign, and outsourcing non-core elements to third parties.

"We promised our community in Chicago that our Gay Games fundraising campaign would not undercut other important community projects, including the Center on Halsted," said Suzanne Arnold, Board Co-Chair. "Three-and-one-half-years later, our beautiful new community center is open and Chicago's LGBT community is stronger than ever. Our local LGBT sports organizations are the strongest they've ever been, offering more sports to more people than ever before."

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1987

Homosexuals Arrested at AIDS Drug Protest

Police officers removing demonstrators from the intersection of Broadway and Wall Street yesterday. Seventeen homosexual-rights protesters were arrested outside Trinity Church during a rally to demand quicker Government approval of drugs that might combat acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Hundreds of protesters stayed behind police lines, but some crossed the barricades and sat in the street to block traffic. They were arrested, charged with disorderly conduct and released.

96% Support Investing in Renewable Energy

By John Hanger, President

A poll of Pennsylvania's registered voters released by Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture) shows a virtual consensus throughout the state in favor of the Energy Independence Strategy (EIS), currently before the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

This stunning support, unprecedented in scope and size, was expressed by both Republicans and Democrats; by conservatives, liberals and moderates; by women and men; and by Pennsylvanians from every part of the state. "This overwhelming tidal wave of support makes it clear that Pennsylvanians want bold action on energy – and they want it right now," said John Hanger, president and CEO of PennFuture. "Voters are fervently in favor of doing everything we can to bring more clean energy into the state. They want tools to save on energy themselves. And – even though some are worried about taxes – they support, by a 2:1 margin, paying to make our state clean, green and energy independent.

"With the EIS implementing legislation now before the General Assembly, our elected leaders have a clear directive from the voters to pass the bills now, without delay and without crippling amendments," continues Hanger.

The poll was released as the Pennsylvania House of Representatives is poised to vote on the package of four bills which comprise the EIS as proposed by Governor Rendell. A number of amendments have been proposed, with several amendments of particular concern for supporters. These amendments would kill renewable energy requirements in the state's clean energy law by adding waste coal, tires and paper pulp mill waste into Tier I of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards. Tier I currently requires Pennsylvania's electricity suppliers to provide increasing amounts of clean energy, including solar, wind, low-impact hydro, geothermal, fuel cells, biomass and methane from farms and landfills. By adding dirty power sources to the clean requirements, true clean renewable energy will be squeezed out of the market.

"Those attempting to gut renewable energy in Pennsylvania should heed these poll results," said Hanger. "The voters' desires couldn't be clearer: Pennsylvania's government should take bold action to spur a new energy economy, rather than prop up old polluting technologies."

Key findings of the poll include:

•Most Pennsylvanians want more action on energy conservation. A combined 94 percent of voters are concerned about the rising costs of fuel oil, natural gas, gasoline and other traditional sources of energy. Four out of five (82 percent) say they are concerned about global warming and the impact of heat-trapping gases on the environment. And 96 percent think it is important for consumers and businesses to increase their use of alternative sources of energy like wind, solar, low impact hydropower and others as a way to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

•Voters overwhelmingly support state incentives to encourage investment in alternative energy sources. Pennsylvania voters, by a 77/15 margin, believe it is "good public policy" to invest tax money in the development of renewable energy sources. More than two-thirds, 67 percent, support the use of tax money to encourage both biodiesel and ethanol fuel plants to locate in Pennsylvania. Nearly nine out of ten, 87 percent, believe that the state should take steps to attract clean energy companies to Pennsylvania to increase our domestic fuel supplies.

•Pennsylvanians support the creation of the Energy Independence Fund. By a better than 2:1 margin, most Pennsylvanians support paying a public benefits charge on their electricity bills of about 45 cents a month to grow our renewable energy economy. This support runs across party lines (Republican support is at 67 percent, Democrats at 73 percent, Independents at 66 percent).

The poll of 750 registered Pennsylvania voters was conducted by Susquehanna Polling and Research of Harrisburg from June 7 through June 9, 2007. The margin of error is +/- 3.58 percent. The full poll and a memo on the results from the pollster are available online at www.pennfuture.org.

Bank Association Says Farmers Financing Needs Met

By Michael H. Firestine

Pennsylvania Bankers Association

As Congress considers a new Federal farm bill, many in the farming community are not aware that the Farm Credit System, a 90-year old government backed lender, is working hard to expand its lending authority way beyond agricultural lending.

This government sponsored enterprise (GSE) established in 1916 has a statutory mandate to serve agriculture. But Farm Credit is trying to convince Congress to allow it to lend way, way off the farm. If the legislation passes, Farm Credit would become a commercial GSE lending authority.

The Farm Credit System makes commercial loans already. One case in point is a fast food restaurant chain. The Cape Fear Farm Credit Bank financed a pet resort in North Carolina. Neither borrower is in agriculture.

Farm Credit lobbyists are also trying to convince Congress that Farm Credit lenders should be allowed to make home loans in towns that are more than twice the size of their current markets. Are you aware of a town or city in Pennsylvania that does not have access to abundant home mortgage credit?

The Conference of State Banking Supervisors which represents state bank regulators recently stated that it firmly believes expanding the FCS charter will harm FDIC-insured institutions. If banks have to compete against government-subsidized FCS institutions for commercial loans and mortgages, in addition to agricultural loans, some community banks will be unable to compete, leading to further consolidation and irreparable harm to local economic development.

Dr. Jeffrey Stokes and Dr. H. Louis Moore, two Pennsylvania State University agricultural economists, recently completed a study of rural credit conditions in Pennsylvania. Listed below are some highlights of their study:

•Commercial banks appear well positioned to deliver credit to rural counties especially for real estate and commercial and industrial loans.

•Agri-businesses surveyed indicated that access to credit is not an issue for Agri-businesses with quality assets, good records and proven management skills.

•Dr. Stokes and Dr. Moore concluded that there are no shortages of credit in rural Pennsylvania.

Farm Credit has been a borrower-capitalized cooperative for 90 years. Congress required Farm Credit borrowers to own stock to assure that Farm Credit lenders make safe and sound decisions. If Farm Credit convinces Congress to drop this requirement, they can make loans up to $750,000,000 (their current maximum loan size) for just $1.00 of investment.

On the state level, Farm Credit would like to participate in the First Industries Loan Guarantee Program. Currently, the First Industries Loan Guarantee Program is available to tax-paying banks and savings institutions. If Farm Credit has access to the guaranteed loan program, a tax-advantaged GSE could obtain a loan guarantee funded by tax paying entities. That's patently unfair.

Farm Credit's lobbyists are hard at work convincing Congress that its expansion is good for rural America. But they provide no justifications. Its requests are not about financing rural America. They are about big corporate deals.

Rural America has indeed changed in the last 90 years. Congress should review whether Farm Credit should continue as a GSE or be cut loose from the American taxpayer. Farm Credit with its tremendous earnings, capital and tax advantage should become independent of the federal government (which was close to taking place when Farm Credit Service of America was planning on selling to Rabo Bank). The beneficiaries of Farm Credit's independence would be all of rural America.

Michael H. Firestine is PA Bankers Association, Chairman, Agricultural & Rural Issues Committee.

Poet Sharon Olds Declines White House Invitation

In an Open Letter to first Lady Laura Bush, poet Sharon Olds declines an invitation to speak at the National Book Critics Circle Award, Washington, DC. Olds is a widely read and critically acclaimed American poet.

Dear Mrs. Bush,

I am writing to let you know why I am not able to accept your kind invitation to give a presentation at the National Book Festival on September 24, or to attend your dinner at the Library of Congress or the breakfast at the White House. In one way, it's a very appealing invitation. The idea of speaking at a festival attended by 85,000 people is inspiring! The possibility of finding new readers is exciting for a poet in personal terms, and in terms of the desire that poetry serve its constituents--all of us who need the pleasure, and the inner and outer news, it delivers. And the concept of a community of readers and writers has long been dear to my heart.

As a professor of creative writing in the graduate school of a major university, I have had the chance to be a part of some magnificent outreach writing workshops in which our students have become teachers. Over the years, they have taught in a variety of settings: a women's prison, several New York City public high schools, an oncology ward for children. Our initial program, at a 900-bed state hospital for the severely physically challenged, has been running now for twenty years, creating along the way lasting friendships between young MFA candidates and their students--long-term residents at the hospital who, in their humor, courage and wisdom, become our teachers. When you have witnessed someone non-speaking and almost non-moving spell out, with a toe, on a big plastic alphabet chart, letter by letter, his new poem, you have experienced, close up, the passion and essentialness of writing. When you have held up a small cardboard alphabet card for a writer who is completely non-speaking and non-moving (except for the eyes), and pointed first to the A, then the B, then C, then D, until you get to the first letter of the first word of the first line of the poem she has been composing in her head all week, and she lifts her eyes when that letter is touched to say yes, you feel with a fresh immediacy the human drive for creation, self-expression, accuracy, honesty and wit - and the importance of writing, which celebrates the value of each person's unique story and song.

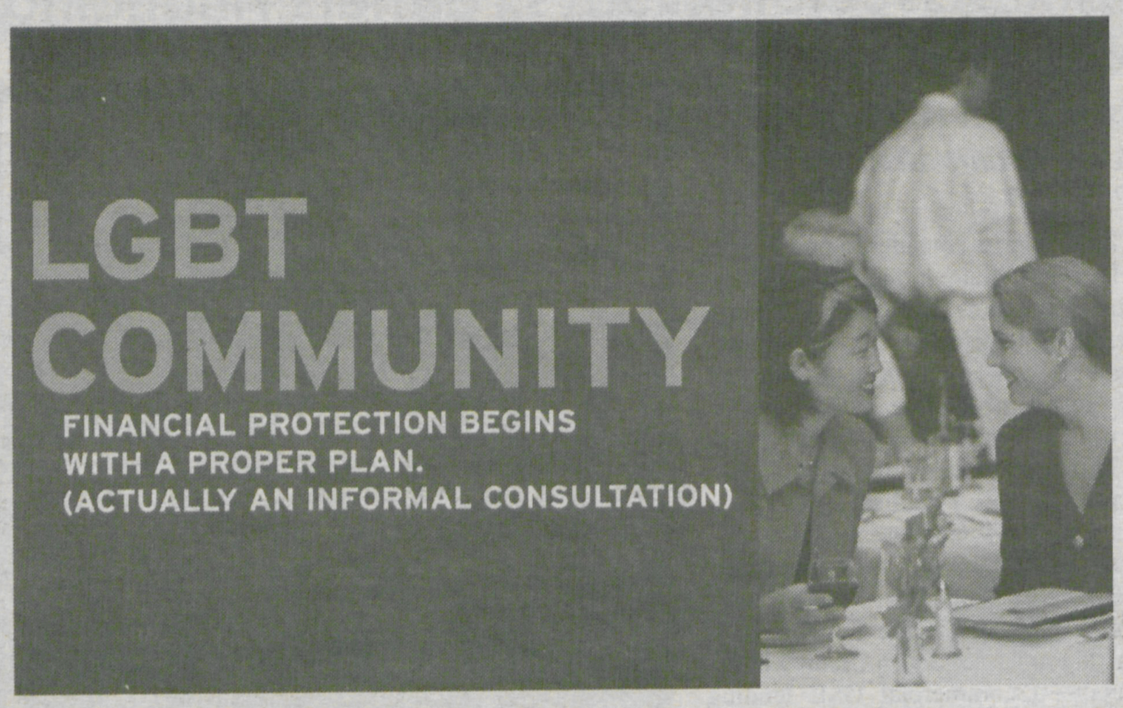
So the prospect of a festival of books seemed wonderful to me. I thought of the opportunity to talk about how to start up an outreach program. I thought of the chance to sell some books, sign some books and meet some of the citizens of Washington, DC. I thought that I could try to find a way, even as your guest, with respect, to speak about my deep feeling that we should not have invaded Iraq, and to declare my belief that the wish to invade another culture and another country - with the resultant loss of life and limb for our brave soldiers, and for the noncombatants in their home terrain - did not come out of our democracy but was instead a decision made "at the top" and forced on the people by distorted language, and by untruths. I hoped to express the fear that we have begun to live in the shadows of tyranny and religious chauvinism--the opposites of the liberty, tolerance and diversity our nation aspires to.

I tried to see my way clear to attend the festival in order to bear witness - as an American who loves her country and its principles and its writing - against this undeclared and devastating war. But I could not face the idea of breaking bread with you. I knew that if I sat down to eat with you, it would feel to me as if I were condoning what I see to be the wild, highhanded actions of the Bush Administration. What kept coming to the fore of my mind was that I would be taking food from the hand of the First Lady who represents the Administration that unleashed this war and that wills its continuation, even to the extent of permitting "extraordinary rendition": flying people to other countries where they will be tortured for us.

So many Americans who had felt pride in our country now feel anguish and shame, for the current regime; of blood, wounds and fire. I thought of the clean linens at your table, the shining knives and the flames of the candles, and I could not stomach it.

Sincerely,

Sharon Olds, Poet



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The Case for Dividends is Growing Stronger

By Ronald R. Wetzel
Financial Consultant
Smith Barney

Most investors understand that there are two components to a stock's total return: capital appreciation, or an increase in stock price, and income from dividends. Unfortunately, investors frequently focus on capital appreciation and ignore dividends, particularly during bull markets when stock prices are increasing at above-average rates. Yet market history teaches us that dividends have been an important component of return for stocks. And looking ahead, we believe the case for dividends continues to build.

Market history helps underscore the often-overlooked importance of dividends. According to analyses done by Citigroup Investment Research, over the past 100 years, dividends have accounted for 48% of the S&P 500's total return, versus 52% for price appreciation. That ratio has held up recently, as well. For the past three years, dividends provided 49% of the S&P 500's return, even though many investors view dividends as relics from the past.

Why Dividends Matter

Dividend-paying stocks can play an important role in a well-diversified portfolio by helping cushion the impact of falling equity prices and rising interest rates. For example, if a stock's price drops 5% but pays a 3% dividend yield over the same period, an investor's total return would be -2%. No investor wants losses, of course, but the dividend helps reduce the impact of the price drop.

Similarly, when interest rates rise, bonds that pay fixed interest rates decline in value. But companies can increase their dividends, even in a period of rising rates, and that may make these stocks relatively more attractive to investors.

We believe three key issues explain why the case for dividends has become more compelling lately:

•The 2003 Tax Act reduced the tax rate on qualified corporate dividends.

•Relative to history, corporations today have more financial flexibility to increase their dividends.

•Retiring baby boomers may look to dividends to supplement or replace their retirement income, driving demand for, and the prices of, dividend-paying stocks.

Reduced Tax Rate

Although we continue to believe that Congress will not allow this provision to expire in 2008, given its popularity among voters, higher-than-expected deficits associated with the costs of the Iraq War and Hurricane Katrina have increased the risk that this could occur.

The 2003 Job Growth and Taxpayer Relief Act reduced the tax rate on qualified corporate dividends to 15%. (The 15% rate applies to taxpayers whose top bracket exceeds 15%; taxpayers in the 5% or 10% brackets pay a 5% tax on qualified dividends.) Before that reduction, dividends were taxed as ordinary income, which incurs a maximum rate of 35% in 2005. The result of the rate reduction: Dividends' after-tax returns have increased significantly. For example, if you are in the 35% tax bracket and earn $5,000 interest income, your federal tax liability is $1,750 versus just $750 for qualified dividends.

Bear in mind, however, that the IRS imposes three requirements before you can claim the lower rate:

•A U.S. corporation or a qualified foreign corporation must have paid the dividends.

•The dividends are qualified. Dividends from

continued on next page

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Company	Symbol	Year High	Year Low	07/31/07 Close	Fortune 500
Aetna Inc	AET	53.43	30.94	48.07	×
American Airlines	AMR	41.00	18.78	24.68	×
Apple Computer Inc.	AAPL	148.92	62.58	131.76	×
AT&T Corp.	T	41.93	29.42	39.16	×
Avaya Inc.	AV	17.24	8.94	16.54	×
Borders Group Inc.	BGP	24.19	15.90	16.36	×
BP America	BP	75.25	58.62	69.40	
Daimler Chrysler Corp.	DCX	96.12	48.29	90.75	
Dell Inc.	DELL	29.61	20.52	27.97	×
Estee Lauder Companies	EL	52.31	34.88	45.02	×
Ford Motor Co.	F	9.70	6.47	8.51	×
Gap Inc.	GPS	21.39	16.05	17.20	×
General Mills Inc.	GIS	61.52	51.50	55.62	×
Intel Corp.	INTC	26.52	17.22	23.62	×
International Business Machines Corp.	IBM	118.82	74.90	110.65	×
Intuit Inc.	INTU	35.98	26.74	28.64	
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	69.41	59.72	60.50	×
Kraft Foods Inc.	KFT	37.20	29.95	32.75	
MetLife	MET	69.35	50.70	60.22	×
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	31.48	23.85	28.99	×
Molson Coors Brewing Co	TAP	99.24	64.25	88.94	×
New York Times Co.	NYT.	26.90	21.54	22.86	
Nike Inc.	NKE	60.35	37.76	56.45	×
Owens Corning	OC	36.93	23.00	30.43	×
PepsiCo Inc.	PEP	69.64	61.15	65.62	×
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	SHLD	195.18	135.04	136.79	×
Sprint Corp.	S	23.42	15.92	20.53	×
The Charles Schwab Corp	SCHW	23.02	15.59	20.13	×
Toyota Motor Sales, USA	TM	138.00	102.87	120.63	
Viacom Inc.	VIA	45.03	33.32	38.47	×
Walgreens Co.	WAG	51.60	39.91	44.18	×
Washington Mutual Inc.	WM	46.38	37.50	37.53	×
Wells Fargo & Co.	WFC	36.99	33.01	33.77	×
Xerox Corp.	XRX	20.18	13.95	17.46	×

preferred stock, real estate investment trusts (REITs), and certain other investments generally do not qualify.

•You must have held the stock for more than 60 days during the 121-day period that begins 60 days before the ex-dividend date.

Improving Corporate Cash Flow

In the two years since the tax rate was lowered, the number of companies initiating dividends has increased from six in 2002 to an average of 46 for 2003 and 2004, according to Citigroup Investment Research. The percentage of firms raising dividends has increased, too. As of March 2005, 15% of companies have raised them versus roughly 8% in March 2002.

The outlook for additional increases is promising, in our opinion. Firms are enjoying lower interest expense, strong free-cash flow, and improved balance sheets. Additionally, dividend payout ratios among the S&P 500 remain low relative to historical levels. Since 1940, the average dividend payout from operating earnings has been 48%. The current ratio is just 29%.

Baby Boomers' Influence

In 2005, the first baby boomers turn 59 years old, with most now firmly into the important 45–64 age bracket. As these individuals born between 1946 and 1964 approach retirement, they may demand income-producing investments.. According to the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Aging, there were 35.9 million people 65 and older in 2003, the latest year for which data are available. These individuals represented 12.3% of the U.S. population, or about one in every eight Americans. By 2030, it is estimated there will be about 71.5 million older people, or about 20% of the population.

Boomers, however, may have unique demands. As they retire, they may not accept drastic cutbacks in their lifestyles, and that means they will have to replace their earned income with unearned income. Because boomers can expect to live 20 years or longer after retiring, they will need sources of funds that keep pace with inflation. As a result, they may be attracted to stocks with histories of rising dividends.

All of this may be good news for investors. Whether you seek to balance growth with income or you require an investment strategy with an income orientation, history and demographics suggest that dividend-paying stocks can potentially play an important role in your investment portfolio.

Ronald Wetzel is a Financial Consultant with Smith Barney located in Harrisburg and may be reached at 717-780-1789.

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By Kristen Richards
Outreach Director, Trans-Central

Sexual Orientation

One of the amazing aspects of human nature is physical/sexual attraction towards another human being. It's the glue that helps bond people physically. Sexual orientation for most usually stabilizes around puberty. For others, uncertainly exists over sexual orientation as they explore same sex relationships, opposite sex relations or both. In transgender individuals, uncertainty over their sexual identity can stem from ambiguity over their gender identity.

Misperceptions

As trans-people begin exploring their gender identity via cross-dressing, experimentation, reaffirmation, hormones or surgery, sexual identity and gender identity are mistakenly interchanged and misperceived. Put simply, sexual identity refers to physical attraction towards another human being - same sex, opposite sex or both. Gender identity denotes identification to masculinity or femininity (or both) and how it's expressed internally and externally.

Per Gianna Israel, co-author of ***Transgender Care***, "from closet to grave, transgender individuals are forced to confront professional and societal situations in which their transgender status is misperceived as being synonymous with specific sexual orientation." During gender exploration, resolution is typically found over their sexual identity. Interestingly, their sexual preference may change, usually after surgery, especially if they avoided sexual relationships prior to experimentation or surgery. Some may now be attracted to the opposite gender. In others, no change occurs as they remain attracted to same sex people. Another portion may go back and forth between same sex and opposite sex people. And a few individuals (asexual) avoid sexual relations or have no interest.

Early Assumptions

Between the 1950s and 1960s, it was assumed that all transgender women (MTF) would be physically attracted to men after Gender Reassignment Surgery (GRS) and vice-versa for trans-men (FTM). By the early 1970s, MTF's were reporting being attracted to women after GRS. Some reported being sexually attracted to both men and women. A few MTF's reported little or no sexual activity (asexual). The study groups used a four-category model criterion - heterosexual, bisexual, homosexual, and asexual. Although trans-to-trans relations could also be included in the model.

Recent Findings

Sexual orientation in trans-people after GRS has been of great interest to sex researchers, clinicians, trans folk and everyone else. Aside from feeling complete (congruence between body and mind) and at peace with themselves, it may be

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Lesbian Notions:

The Lesbian in the Gray Flannel Suit

By Libby Post

Stacey Sobel and I met more than 20 years ago. I was a student leader at what was then known as the State University of New York at Albany (now it's called the University at Albany, to make it sound more like a private school). She was a budding lesbian wanting to know how to be an activist.

Given what she's accomplished for the LGBT community, I guess I gave her some good advice.

As the executive director of Equality Advocates Pennsylvania (EAP), Sobel heads a statewide organization that is one of a kind in the United States. Not only does Equality Advocates educate the public and advocate on LGBT public policy issues, it also provides direct legal services to members of the community - the only statewide LGBT organization to do so.

"We're the home to the first law student clinic in the country dedicated to LGBT issues," Sobel told me in a recent phone interview. "The clinic started in 2000, the year before I got here, but we've really grown." In addition to working with its first partner, the University of Pennsylvania Law School, the clinic now has formal relationships with all the Philadelphia area law schools, as well as Yale, New York University, and the University of California at Los Angeles.

But it's the public policy and advocacy part of the job that really makes Sobel's blood pump.

Originally a lobbyist for the telecommunications industry, Sobel knew her way around the halls of Congress. During the summer of 1994, however, she was hired as a consultant by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and ended up lobbying for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

"It was interesting. Since I had already lobbied, many of the folks on the Hill knew me in a different capacity," she said. "I had to out myself. Some people told me I 'would never work again' if I went to work on gay issues."

Clearly, that's not the case. Sobel is one of the few - she says there are no more than 50 - LGBT attorneys across the country who actually do LGBT civil rights work as a full-time job.

"I call myself a stealth rebel because I got a lot of my training as a more mainstream lobbyist," she said. "I walk around in a dark gray suit, [with an] attache case and a Blackberry. When I stand in the Capitol, I look and talk like the rest of them, and it gives me the ability to have our case heard."

Sobel explained that the more radical groups in the community make her job easier because they scare the legislators. "When the elected officials see me coming, I get a better reception," she said. "It's great that the community can be represented in so many different ways."

In the past few years, Sobel has been walking and talking her way to some pretty nice victories. She told me that when she first took her current job in April of 2001, the prevailing thought was that hate crimes legislation would be passed in Pennsylvania when hell froze over. After working the halls of the state Capitol in Harrisburg, Sobel saw former Governor Mark Schweiker (R) sign the bill into law in 2002.

In July of 2006, Sobel and EAP successfully

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September 23

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Take a walk on the wild side and join us at The Grateful Dog Walk. Grab your leashes, lace up your sneakers, walk with your furry friend or form a 'dog pack', and don't forget your favorite fur-clad buddy!

Central Pennsylvania Animal Alliance is excited to host our second Grateful Dog Walk. The Walk, part of CPAA's WoofStock Festival is scheduled at Riverfront Park, Harrisburg, Pa. for Sunday, September 23 at 10am. Last years Walk was a blast! The donations collected greatly benefited CPAA's Spay Neuter Program, DeSex in the City, and CPAA member organizations.

The walk is a leisurely stroll near the beautiful Susquehanna River through Harrisburg's Riverfront Park. The Walk will begin on the City Island side of the Walnut Street walking bridge. "Paws" for a while at the water stations available along the route for all participants, with fur or without!

Don't go around with your tail between your legs - if you're dog-less, you can still hound your friends, family and co-workers to make a donation to this great cause. Take part in the walk and you'll probably fall in love with an adoptable pooch from one of the rescues or shelters attending.

Participants who choose to leave their paw prints on the entire route will finish along Front Street and help kick off WoofStock, CPAA's version of a doggie love in, at 11am. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and relax with your best friend. Listen to some good ole' rock n' roll or get down to country tunes from some of Pa's grooviest bands and acoustics performers. Enter your pooch in the Funkytown Pet Costume contest, or just sit back and enjoy the festivities.

All donations gathered at The Grateful Dog Walk and WoofStock benefit member organizations and CPAA's Spay/Neuter and Vaccine Programs. The registration fee alone won't make the walk a success. Check out the groovy prizes and download a pledge form now at www.cpaawoofstock.com. Email woofstock2006@yahoo.com,or call (717) 938-1191 to get a form by snail mail, and start sniffing around and fetching donations today! CPAA is a 501(C)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

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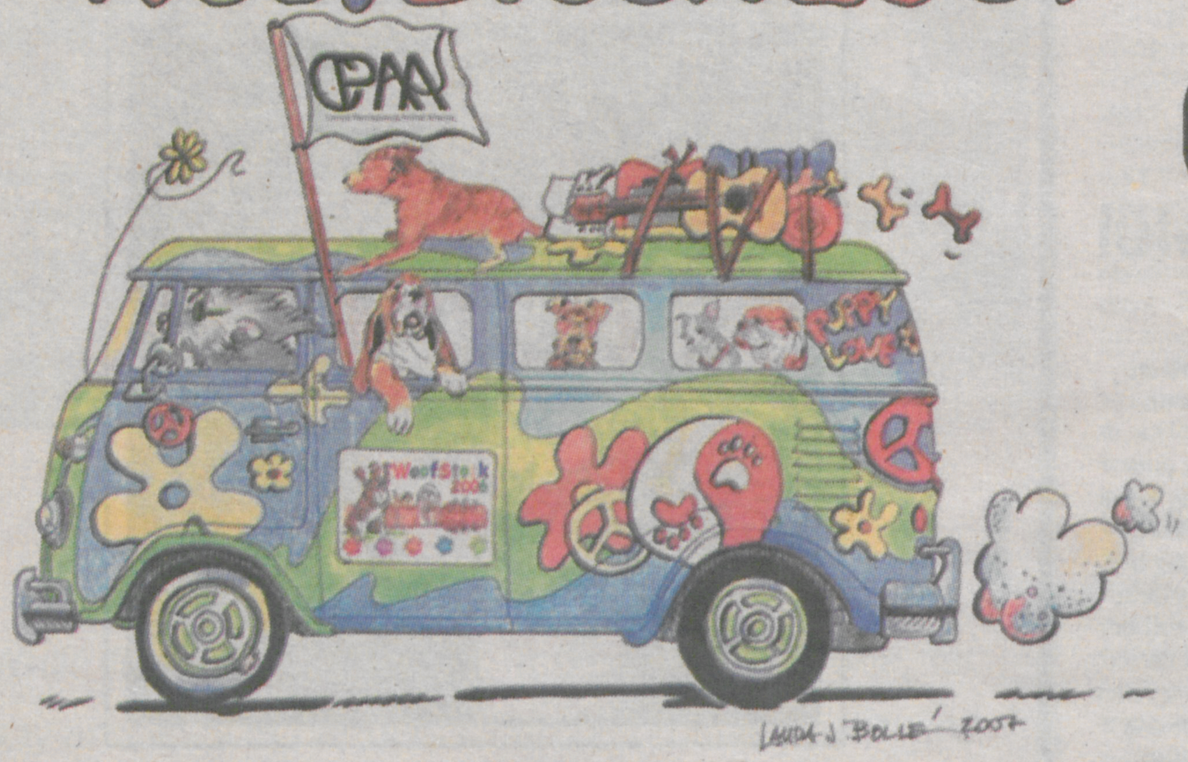

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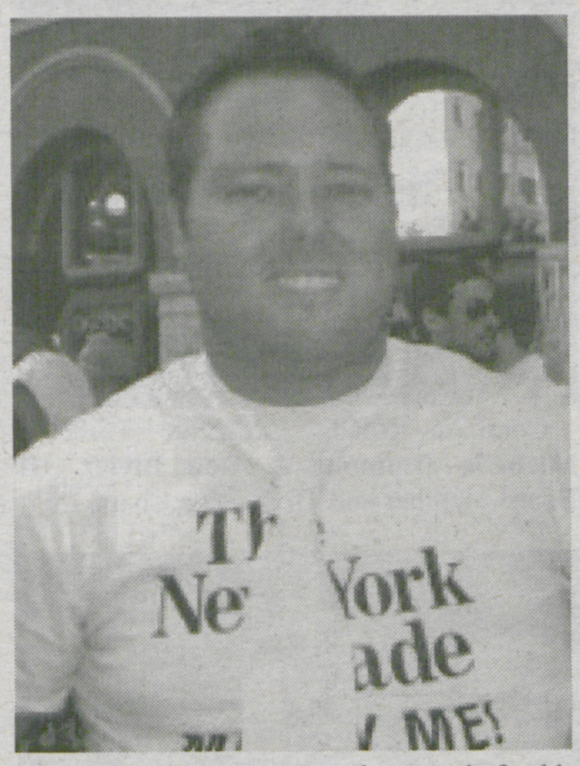
Anti-Terrorism Agreement Raises More Concerns

by Michael Lavens

President George W. Bush and his administration remain arguably the movement for LGBT rights' perfect villain. He maintains his support for the long-shot proposed Federal Marriage Amendment to secure his dwindling socially conservative base. The White House continues to support abstinence-based curriculum to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa. Bush also maintains his solid support [and taxpayers' money] for faith based programs. These three things are only a small portion of the many reasons to which LGBT activists and their supporters point as the motivation behind their opposition to the current administration.

The Washington Post reported yesterday the United States and the European Union will soon begin to share personal information about trans-Atlantic airline passengers. The paper further indicated sexual orientation may be among the data collected. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff defended the program as an "essential screening tool" in the American government's ongoing fight against terrorism. Others will certainly disagree in light of the [perceived or actual] terrorism threat. This proposal will provide anti-Bush and arguably anti-Republican activists within the movement for LGBT rights yet another source of ammunition to advocate against the administration's agenda. This rhetoric has almost



grown tired in recent years because it frankly does not carry the impact it once did. This program, however, raises many questions about the lengths to which this administration will go under the guise of anti-terrorism. Activists will certainly demand answers to these concerns as details of the program emerge.

Harrisburg MCC Starts Grief Ministry

Harrisburg Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit and Middletown Compassionate Care Hospice are collaborating to offer a new ministry of care around grief issue, according to Jennilu King, of bereavement counselor with Compassionate Care.

Beginning Sept. 13, 6-9 PM, a free monthly support group called "Hope and Healing" is available for the glbt community at MCC, 2973 Jefferson St., Harrisburg, PA 17109. Refreshments will be provided.

"Anyone who is grieving relationships where someone has died is welcome to attend," King says. That person may be a spouse, parent, child, or very dear friend.

Grieving is often difficult for non-traditional couples and friendships where spouses or life partners may not be recognized or where family dynamics simply do not allow for glbt people to grieve openly or with support.

Contact: Jennilu King, 944-4466; jenillu.king@gmail.com.

Transgender AIDS Activist Chris Poorman Dies

Chris Poorman, affectionately known as "Mama Chris" and "Miss Chris," 58, of Middletown, passed away July 2 at her home.

Born in Harrisburg on December 8, 1948, she was the daughter of the late Lee Roy and Mary Alice Bomgardner Poorman.

Chris was a well-known spokeswoman and advocate for foster care and people living with HIV/AIDS, serving in numerous volunteer capacities empowering people living with HIV.

In 2004, as an advocate for transgender people dealing with HIV, she was interviewed by POZ magazine and several other national publications for a story series called "Positive Voices". A review group conducted a national search by asking the 600,000 people who visit TheBody.com each month to nominate inspiring HIV-positive people who have made a difference in their lives. They chose Chris along with nine other individuals. Interviewed at the time, Chris said, "I'm going to keep fighting this disease and be a voice for those who won't talk."

She worked for the Harrisburg Youth Advocate Program and Philadelphia's Crime Prevention Associates; and for Dauphin County Agency on Aging Meals on Wheels. Chris was a 1967 graduate of Hershey High School, and Harrisburg Area Community College.

From 2002 to 2007, she served on the Board of Directors of the AIDS Community Alliance of South Central PA. As a member of its Speakers Bureau she addressed high school health classes. Chris also served with the AIDS Planning Coalition of South Central PA, Pinnacle Health REAACH Consumer Advisory Council, where she helped develop the Mentor Program for newly-diagnosed patients. She was also Consumer Advisor to the Pennsylvania Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program and Pennsylvania/Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education Training Program.

She was chairwoman for five years of South Central Pennsylvania's AIDSWALK. "Chris Poorman was a valued volunteer and member of the Board of Directors. For many years she served as the chair of the agency's annual AIDS Walk. She was a tireless advocate for the needs of individuals and families impacted by HIV. Her dedication and passionate spirit will be greatly missed, said Philip K. Goropoulos, president/CEO, AIDS Community Alliance of South Central PA.

Chris also served on the World AIDS Day and International Candlelight Vigil Planning Committees and volunteered at "Sharing Our Caring."

She is survived by one brother, Calvin L. Poorman and his life partner Terry A. Hoffman of Steelton; and several foster children, aunts, uncles and cousins.

A Celebration of Life Service was held July 13 in the Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit, Harrisburg, with The Rev. Eva O'Diam officiating. Trefz & Bowser Funeral Home, Inc., Hummelstown, handled arrangements.

It was Chris' wish in lieu of flowers people wear AIDS ribbons; get tested and encourage their loved ones to be tested for HIV. Memorial contributions may be made to "Sharing Our Caring", c/o Fulton Bank, 1212 Cocoa Avenue, Hershey, PA 17033. www.trefzandbowser.com

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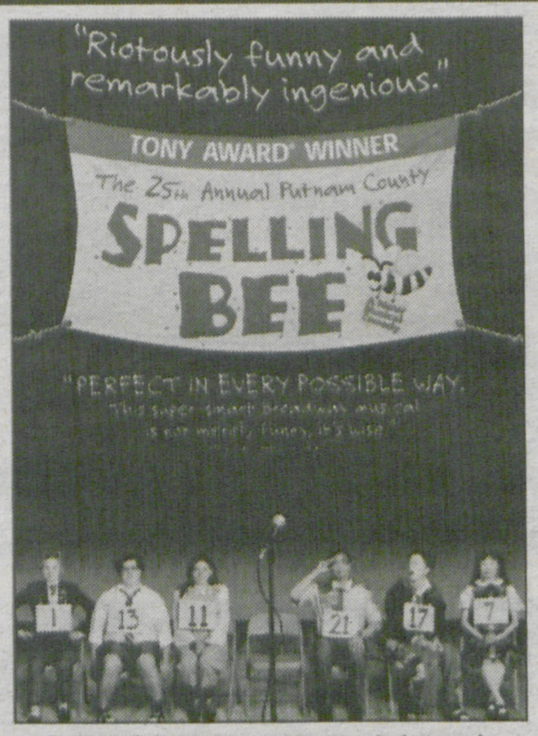

In the Tony Award-winning new musical comedy THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE, six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. The New York Times calls SPELLING BEE, "irresistable, riotously funny and remarkably ingenious – gold stars all around."

Fri. – Sun., SEPT. 21 - 23, 2007
Parental Guidance Suggested. Tickets $60 to $30

Everything you've heard is true! "Mel Brooks has put the comedy back into musical comedy. THE PRODUCERS is the funniest, most fearlessly irreverent thing ever seen on stage!" (USA Today). Direction and choreography by five-time Tony Award winner Susan Stroman (*Crazy for You, Contact, The Music Man*). The New York Times raves "THE PRODUCERS is a blissful spectacle that will leave you delirious!"

Tues. – Sun., OCT. 23 - 28, 2007
Parental Guidance Suggested. Tickets $70 to $45

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June 15 Next Year

Common Roads Benefit Raises $22,000 for Region's Youth Services

Common Roads, a central Pennsylvania organization providing education, advocacy and programs for sexual minority youth, recently hosted a wildly successful benefit at Lancaster's Belvedere Restaurant.

Called "Tropicanza Tea Dance," the fund raising event raised $22,000 for the organization and more then 250 people attended. Creation and coordination of Tropicanza also garnered $12,000 of in-kind support.

The Belvedere Restaurant

Revelers were greeted by velvet ropes, muscle-boy bouncers, and costumed characters reminiscent of Priscilla Queen of the Desert. Bartenders served complimentary Pear-tini's, Pear-mojito's, and Pear Cosmos, the theme drinks for the night, supplied by Grey Goose Vodka. The Belvedere Restaurant served a mouth-watering buffet - scallops, beef tenderloin, and the establishment's signature Caesar Salad.

DJ Freez supplied the "groov-a-licious" tunes for both the VIP Party and Tea Dance. ShumakerPDT created an amazing space of lights, fog, beaded curtains, chrome metallic drapes, disco balls and more disco balls - taking attendees back to the days of Studio 54.

Blyler Event Chair

"There is no way to describe the sense of community one had while coordinating and attending Tropicanza. All kinds of people – gay, straight, whatever - having a great time," says Don Blyler, III, the event's chairperson. Susan Wheeler, mother of Jimmy Wheeler, about whom the documentary film "Jim in Bold" was made, spoke heartfelt words. Shaun Espenshade, vice president of Cedar Crest High School GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) shares his thoughts on being out and proud and having hopefully paved the way for others to follow suit.

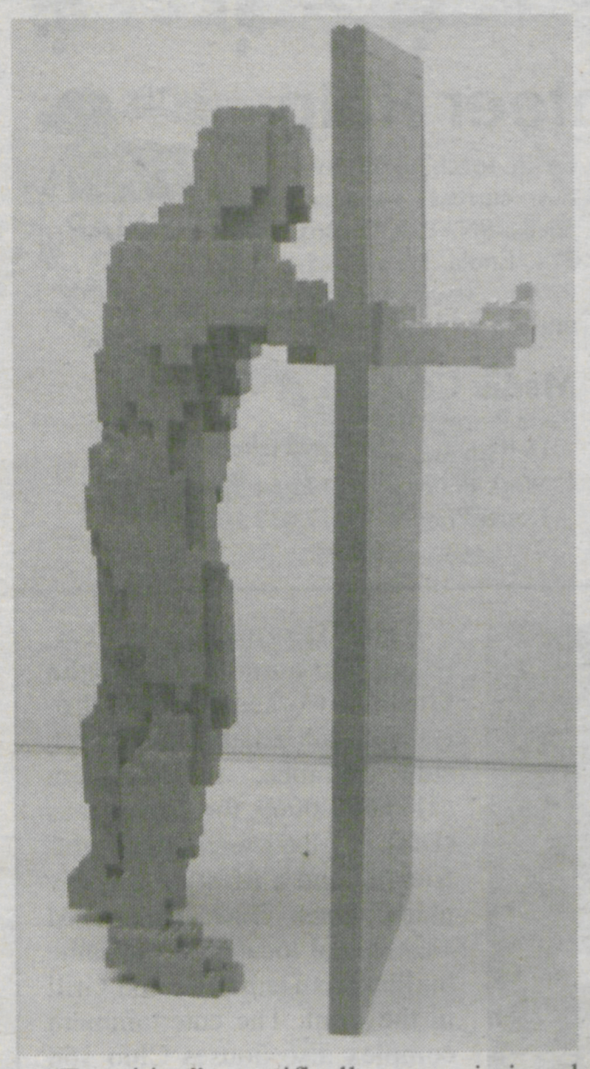
j.a. sharp Custom Jeweler

The event also included a Silent Auction. j.a. sharp Custom Jeweler generously donated numerous pendants and earrings for the raffle. The great buy of the night was the Nathan Sawaya "Transition" LEGO sculpture commissioned specifically for Common Roads and its Tropicanza event. Other artists, among many, included Melody Keim, Victor Capecce, and Joel Ember.

Items included A Dinner for 6 prepared by world-renowned Chef Chocolatier of Godiva, trips to Maine, Vermont, Myrtle Beach and Rehoboth Beach, jewelry from local artisans, a gorgeous topaz & diamond bracelet. Numerous and assorted baskets and gift certificates rounded out the silent auction choices.

June 15 Next Year

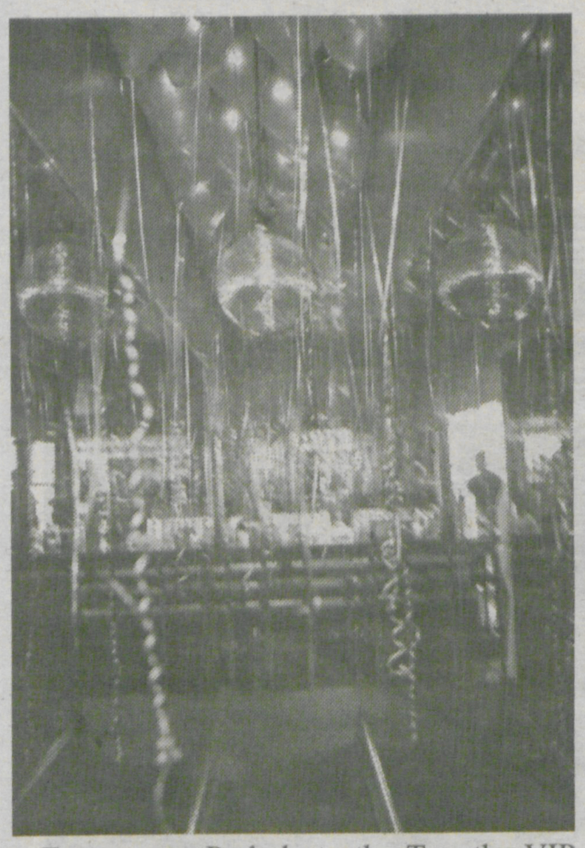
If you missed this year, plan to attend next year's event June 15, 2008.



"Transition" specifically commissioned for **Tropicanza**, by renowned LEGO artists, **Nathan Sawaya**. The exhibit is currently touring the US, as seen in Newsweek, and CNN. The item raised $1,500 in the Silent Auction.

DJ Freez spinning tunes at Tea Dance.

Susan Wheeler, mother of "Jim in Bold," speaks.



Entrance to Prelude to the Tea, the VIP portion of the event.

Common Roads Executive Director, **Michelle Simmons & Don Blyler, III** Board Member and Tropicanza Chair.

Party, party, party!

Shaun Espenshade: Cedar Crest GSA Vice President, 2007 graduate

Dance, dance, dance!

The event was real party.

Revelers were greeted by **Sorta Tangi, a Belvedere Bouncer**, and **Ultra Tangi**.

Grey Goose sponsored theme drinks complimentary all night.

REVIEWS

CDs • BOOKS • DVDs

Boys in the "Band" and the "Chorus"

by John DiLeo

I recently, and accidentally, revisited two gay cultural landmarks on successive days, the 1970 film version of Mart Crowley's 1968 Off-Broadway play *The Boys in the Band* and a matinee of the current Broadway revival of the 1975 musical classic *A Chorus Line.* Born in 1961, I was too young to be affected by the impact of Crowley's play and subsequent film, but I was the perfect age to embrace *A Chorus Line.* At fourteen, I saw the original production, which fueled my dreams for a theatrical career. I avoided seeing it again in the 1980s when I was an Equity member: who wants to end a day of auditioning by seeing a musical about an audition? I did see the disastrous 1985 screen version, but that was such a non-event it's as if it never happened.

Seeing *Boys* and *Chorus Line* back to back brought up the obvious question: how do these milestones hold up regarding their gay portrayals? Directed by William Friedkin, and employing the original cast, *Boys* preserves the moment when gays achieved unprecedented visibility in American drama. Nothing can diminish its groundbreaking importance, though I'm hardly the first to point out how painfully dated much of it now seems. *A Chorus Line,* however, delighted me with its matter-of-fact approach to its three gay characters. Addressing the reality that many Broadway chorus boys are gay, *Chorus Line,* a musical focused on dancers' lives, was conceived by gay director-choreographer Michael Bennett and written by gay book writers Nicholas Dante and James Kirkwood. Characters Greg and Bobby provide playful comic relief in their amusing anecdotes about growing up gay, while Paul, in the show's famous monologue, speaks about the secrets he kept from his parents. Just when you're sure Paul's story is going to end in shame and humiliation, there is, instead, a loving and hopeful conclusion as touching today as it was in 1975, a time when it was still new to hear a gay man talk about his personal life front and center on a Broadway stage. In *Chorus Line,* gay men are simply part of the scene, and the show was a significant step in presenting them without apology or self-congratulatory fuss.

Watching *Boys in the Band* again, I began by thinking, "It's a period piece, so there's no reason to judge it too harshly." I was able to hold that thought for the first half, as a group of friends gather at a New York apartment for a birthday party. (Birthday boy Leonard Frey appears to be channeling Geraldine Page throughout, at least when he's not seen flipping through *The Films of Joan Crawford.*) Initially, the dialogue has the comic snap that connotes genuine camaraderie among the seven friends (a closet case and a hustler bring the total to nine). The bitchy remarks, the sexual humor, and the uninhibited interplay suggest a family of friends who formed a safe haven from an unaccepting straight world.

John DiLeo

Unfortunately, Crowley's writing turns masochistic and mean-spirited, wallowing in self-loathing. For all its daring, *Boys* seems closer to the gay-themed movies that preceded it *(The Children's Hour, The Killing of Sister George,* even *Tea and Sympathy)* than to a great and forward-thinking gay film like 1971's *Sunday, Bloody Sunday,* which may be about a closeted doctor (brilliant Peter Finch) but was crafted with such complexity that you might have expected gay characters never to be stereotyped again.

When the host (Kenneth Nelson) dares each guest to telephone the person he has loved most (and tell him so), the material takes a sadistic and debasing turn. (Shouldn't everyone just get up and leave?) The depressing thing about *Boys* is the way Crowley fashioned it as an exposé, a pitying commentary on gay lives. When Nelson reaches the climax of his post-party breakdown aria, he delivers what can only be taken as the play's message: "If we could just not hate ourselves so much." And this was a pre-AIDS world, one that people would soon be looking back on with nostalgia. Though *Boys* and *Chorus Line* are both pre-AIDS, they really aren't: five of *Boys'* nine-man ensemble died from the disease, as did several original *Chorus Line* contributors, including Bennett, Dante, and Kirkwood. These vehicles represent the generation hit hardest by the scourge. *Boys* addresses issues—coming out, promiscuity versus monogamy, straight-passing gays' discomfort with effeminate gays (represented here by Cliff Gorman, who has the best and most quotable lines)—but what stays with you are heavy-handed theatrics and pervasive pessimism. Not all groundbreakers stand the test of time, so it's nice to report that one out of two is still a singular sensation.

John DiLeo's forthcoming book, *Screen Savers,* will be published in December.

Book Review: "The Hellfire Conspiracy"

by Daniel M. Kane

Anglophiles, unite! "The Hellfire Conspiracy," fourth of a mystery series of four so far, was written by Will Thomas, whose fan base is growing. Thomas, a librarian from Oklahoma, sets his novels in nineteenth-century Victorian London, a place and time on which he's done extensive research. Touchstone Books, a Simon & Schuster imprint, released the novel in July (ISBN 0-7432-9640-0; $14.00). This is not your entry-level account of blokes drinking spots of tea and watching cricket; this is a fast-paced, absorbing chronicle filled with English wit and an advanced understanding of social classes, dynamics and roles particular to the time period. The author doesn't have much to say about long-haired men except in the most implicit of manners, but he does like to play with the short-haired women. Master detective - or "enquiry agent," as he prefers to be addressed Cyrus Barker and assistant Thomas Llewelyn are mixed up in young, female abductions and murders, originally suspecting political protesters but soon finding something much more sinister. The novel, though fourth, stands alone. The short chapters make leisure reading convenient for even the busiest of readers. I'd recommend reading this novel, even if not for the intricate plot, for the enchanting escape across the pond.

Thelma Houston's Back!

Thelma Houston's back! And she ain't leavin' us this way. Thelma Houston's Back!

A Grammy Award Winner, multi-talented singer, songwriter, actress and international performer, Houston is an accomplished entertainer whose list of credits are a testament to her desire to meet new challenges and create new opportunities.

Currently, through SHOUT! Factory, Houston launched "A Woman's Touch," dedicated to what you grew up with but never outgrew. www.shoutfactory.com

Free Gay Inspirational Novel Available

When authors Dale Colclasure and David Jensen were asked the question, "Why are you giving your book away?" Both responded simultaneously, "Why not?" The two authors have launched a website, named after their book entitled, "Gift of the Soul" (www.GiftOfTheSoul.com) where readers can download the entire book as a PDF file for free.

Colclasure and Jensen, award-winning authors, columnists and public speakers, strongly believe in giving back to society. "There is such a shortage of inspirational material for the gay and lesbian community and we feel strongly about making this type of material accessible to anyone and everyone who wants it," states Jensen.

Colclasure follows up with, "In today's world, we are constantly confronted with negativity, threats of terrorism and fear. This book is uplifting and inspirational and helps counterbalance with positive messages and feel-good exercises. Now, more than ever, the world needs this kind of book."

In just a short period of time, the word of mouth site is quickly becoming one of the most popular destinations for gays, lesbians, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals seeking inspirational words in novel form.

The book reveals the story of a gay youth questioning his place in the world who meets up with a master – one who teaches him many life lessons. An inspirational and simple read, the book is touching right to the soul.

Colclasure and Jensen want to encourage others to pursue their dreams while making a difference in the world. For a free copy, visit: www.GiftOfTheSoul.com

Lemoyne

Higashi Pearls Advises on Caring for Pearls

Cultured pearls are relatively soft compared to other gemstones and precious metals, says Higashi Pearls & Fine Jewelry, Lemoyne.

Taking care of your pearls is important to ensure they will remain bright and beautiful for generations to come. Cosmetics, perfume and hair spray all contain chemicals that can dull the lustre of a pearl over extended periods of time. Even acids contained in body oils and perspiration can work to damage lustre in the same way.

After, Not Before

Therefore, it is best to put your pearls on after applying makeup, perfume and hair spray. Wiping the pearls with a soft damp cloth after you wear them will ensure that they remain free from any harmful build-ups of these compounds. Periodically, the pearls should be washed with a mild soap.

Keep Separate

Always keep your pearls separated from hard jewelry items, such as metals and other gemstones, to prevent them from scratching your pearls. Pearls are best kept in a soft cloth pouch or a separately lined jewelry box.

Restring Annually

If you wear your pearls several times a week, it is best to take them back to your jeweler for restringing about once a year to prevent strand breakage. When having your pearls re-strung, many experts advise silk thread. However, nylon thread is an acceptable alternative. Make sure that the string is knotted between each pearl. Individual knotting will prevent all the pearls in strand from falling off should a break occur. Knotting also prevents the pearls from rubbing against each other. www.higashipearls.com

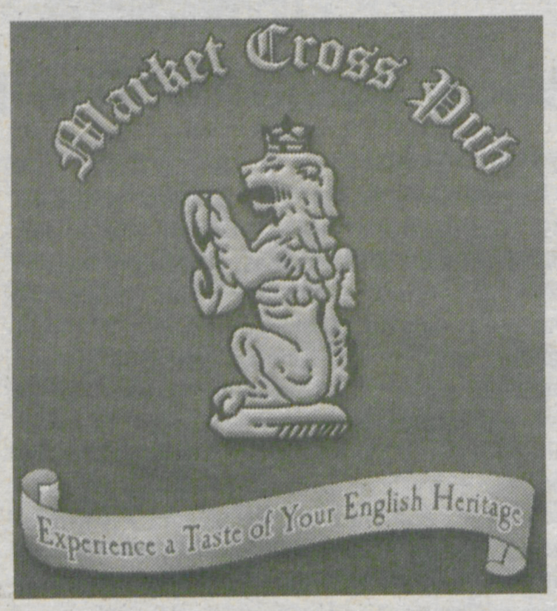
HAPPY Grandparents' DAY Sunday, September 9

JASON WALKER Jason Walker's Hot Scene

"It was one of the best nights of my life - and one of the most frightening," says Jason Walker of his winning performance on NBC-TV's "Showtime At The Apollo". "I walked on to the stage and the crowd went bezerk; booing and hissing. They shouted things like 'Go home white boy' and 'Get off the stage'. I never wanted to leave a place so badly in my life. Steve Harvey, the host of the show, put his arm around me and said 'I have been where you are right now. Just relax and do your thing.' So I walked over to the mic knowing that I'd either have them after the first line or..."

He's never looked back. When Walker left his native Pittsburgh and arrived in New York at the age of 24, his dream was to reinvigorate the ailing dance music scene. And he has. Now with "Flexible" he's the hottest artist on the scene. www.jasonwalkermusic.com

The Market Cross Pub, opened in 1994 on Hanover Street originally as one small narrow restaurant, then opened into the store next door to provide more space for seating.



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Paintings by Carlisle's treasured naive painter September 8 – 21

"Clarence I. Lewis – Painting the Minds Eye"

WWI 1970's

This remarkable art show opens at The Garden Gallery September 8 with a public reception 10-3 PM, running until September 21. Gallery hours are 10-5 Mon. – Fri. and 10-3 Sat.

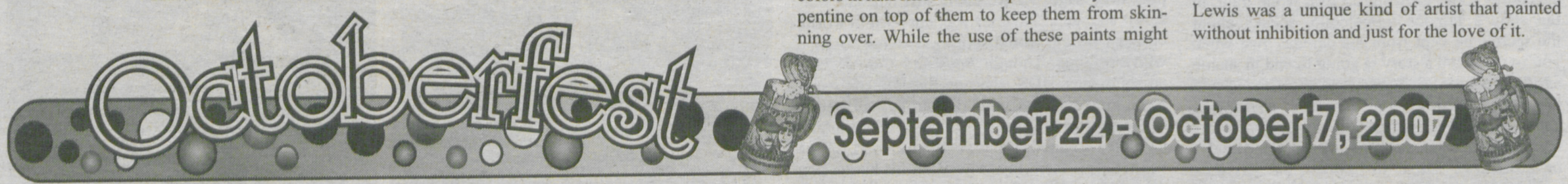
Clarence "Ike" Lewis (1898 – 1982) painted houses professionally for his lively hood, and painted as an artist because he loved the world that he saw around him. Born in Pottsville, Pa., he was always drawing or doodling. He enlisted in the Army, just as the United States entered World War I. He became part of Eddie Rickenbacker's air squadron, The First Air Pursuit Group, as an insignia painter.

After the war, he started his own painting business and married Martha P. Reese of St. Clair, Pennsylvania. During the '30's he applied to Carlisle Barracks and was employed there until the outbreak of World War II when he volunteered as a ship painter at Pearl Harbor. After the war and his return to Carlisle, he continued to work for the United States government and it was during this period that he started to paint for his own pleasure.

Painting on prepared wood paneling, Clarence ingeniously used the main tool of his trade, oil based exterior house paints instead of the traditional artist's oil paint. He would keep different colors in half filled Dixie cups with a layer of turpentine on top of them to keep them from skinning over. While the use of these paints might see unorthodox, it made his paintings extremely durable and this is a great advantage now when some of these paintings are in need of cleaning and restoration.

Clarence painted mainly from memory various scenes of Cumberland, Lancaster and Lebanon and other counties. He would take pictures of a scene he would like and jot down notes on colors and other details. While never having taken an art lesson, he was influenced by California artist, Walter Foster. In gratitude for Mr. Foster's influence, Ike sent a painting of his own to Mr. Foster.

The charming and innocent expressions of Clarence Lewis' paintings are sometimes further enhanced by writings on the back of many of them. Sometimes the words are clever sayings or just a simple dedication to the person whom he was giving or selling the painting to. Clarence Lewis was a unique kind of artist that painted without inhibition and just for the love of it.



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Outsports.com Gets 2 Million Hits Monthly

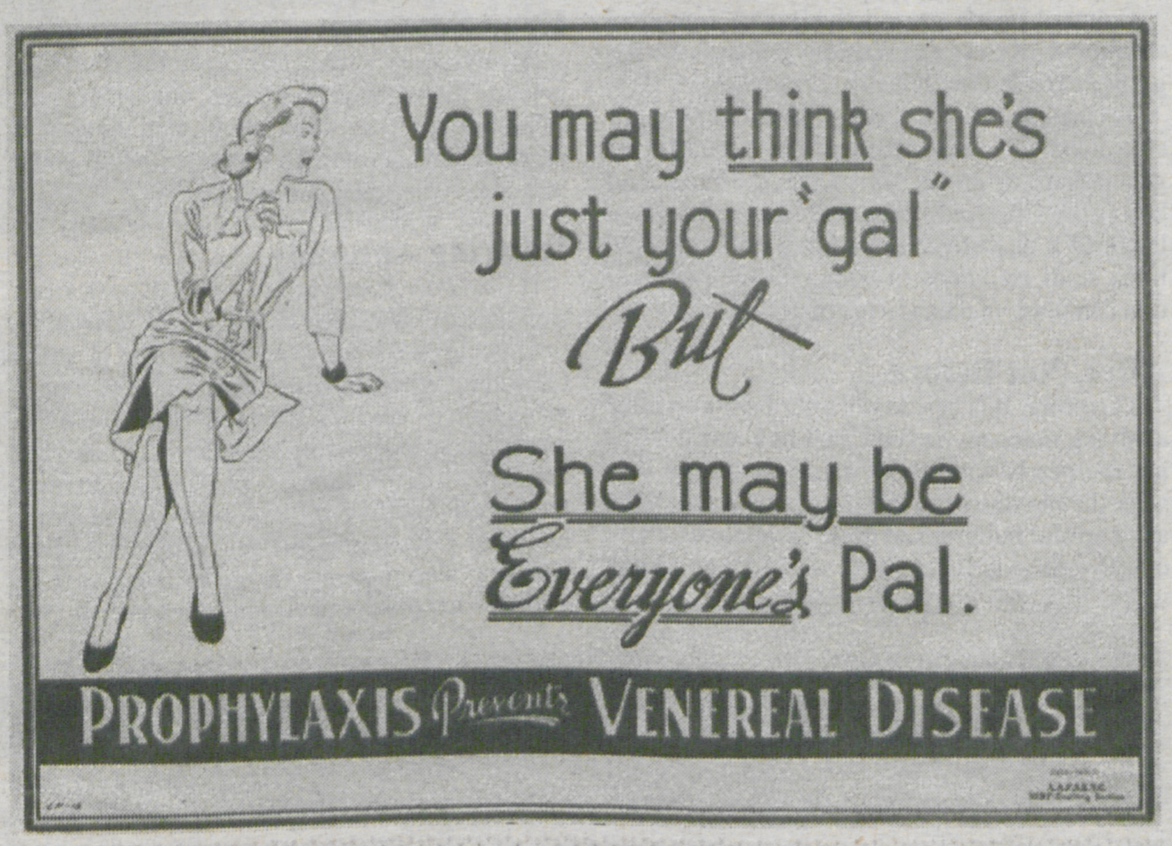
Outsports.com has been called "ESPN for homos" and receives over two million hits per month. Now, the founders of this ground-breaking website offer an in-depth and entertaining compendium on the issues surrounding gays and lesbians in the sporting wor

"The Outsports Revolution" chronicles the development and rise of the outsports.com brand, and outlines its impact on the world of gay sports. With over 25 chapters, both famous out athletes along with the unsung, unknown trailblazers who have helped others come out.

With points of view from such figures as the MLB's Billy Bean, the NFL's Esera Tuaolo and Greg Louganis - as well as Molly Lenore, a former college football player who transitioned to a woman and now plays gay flag football; Brian Fell, a two-time NCAA track and field star; and sports professional Larry Felzer, who organized Gay Community Night for the Philadelphia Phillies - this guide chronicles all the issues on this hotly debated subject.

Learn about athletes who have come out of the closet and of the impact their revelation has had on their particular sport; the proliferation of gay sporting leagues throughout the country; the myth behind why gay men can't play sports; and many other subjects.

Enter to win!



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The Carlisle Arts Learning Center Presents – "A Seminar on Thrown & Carved Ceramics"

The Carlisle Arts Learning Center, 19 N. Hanover St., Carlisle, Pa. presents a one day seminar with professional artist/potter Sara Baker. An artist/potter for over 25 years, Sara has been featured in, and written for, Ceramics Monthly magazine.

The seminar covers various throwing and carving techniques that Sara uses to produce her dramatic and beautiful pottery.

Contact: Charles Andrews, show coordinator – 717-249-1721 or CALC – 717-249-6973

Seminar information follows:

• Saturday, September 15 –

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., CALC opens for registration, refreshments, browsing and socializing.

9:00 a.m. – Noon, Sara begins. At a point of Sara's choosing, there will be a 15 minute break.

Noon – 1:00 p.m., Lunch on your own. Carlisle is famous for its restaurants, all within walking distance.

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m., Participants return.

1:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m., Sara continues, and at a point of Sara's choosing, there will be a 15 minute break.

4:15 p.m. Its a wrap.

Participation Fees –

Until August 15th —$75.00 (CALC members), $85.00 (non CALC members).

After August 15th —$90.00 (CALC members), $100.00 (non CALC members).

CALC
Carlisle Arts Learning Center

• Friday, September 14 – *Optional Event*

A **"Masters Throwing Class"** from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We have 7 wheels, so that limits us to 7 direct participants. Cost $35 (CALC members), $45.00 (non CALC members)

Please make checks out to "CALC" • Visa/Mastercard accepted

To signup: Please call CALC – 717-249-6973 or email at info@carlislearts.org

Or mail to: CALC, 19 N. Hanover St., Carlisle, PA 17013-3014

About Sara Baker:

Sara Baker began mastering the art of throwing clay in high school. After finishing college, Sara attended the Worcester Center for Crafts as a professional craft studies student, and was a resident artist before setting up her studio in Unityville, Pennsylvania in 1992. Sara participates in shows such as the American Craft Marketing; National Craft s, Ltd.'s; the Craftsmen's Guild in Pittsburg; DCAS Crafts at Rhinebeck, New York; the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival; the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts.

Sara lives in Unityville, Pennsylvania, along with her husband Oren Helbock, and their two children Maia and Jem. The home and studio are in a charming old farmhouse.

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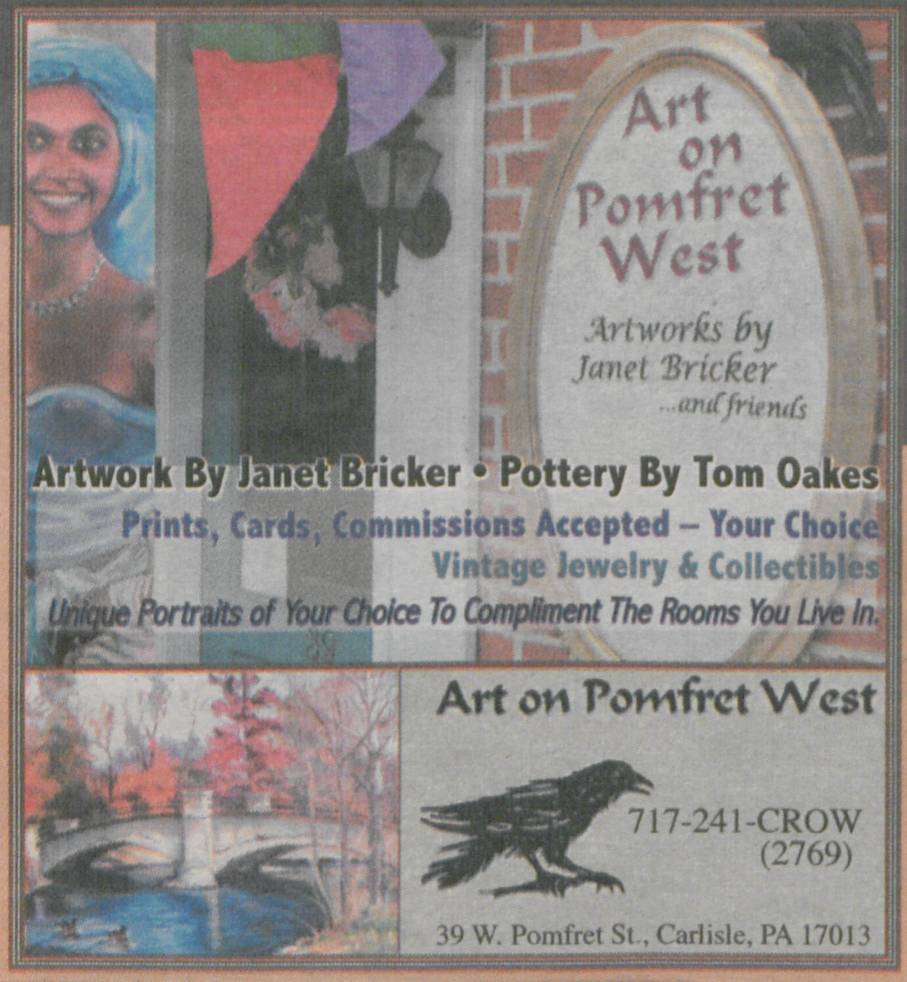

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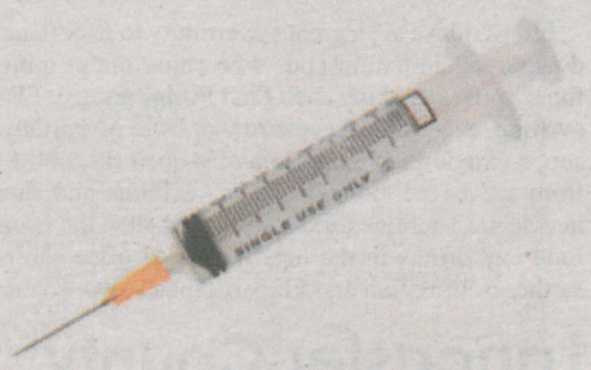
Scientists Work to Develop HIV Vaccine

by David Foucher

Two University of Oklahoma scientists are starting research that they hope will someday lead to the development of a vaccine to combat the HIV virus, which causes AIDS.



The research to be performed by Mark Lang, an assistant professor of microbiology and immunology at the OU Health Sciences Center, and microbiologist John West will examine the basic aspects of the immune system, rather than the complex aspects of the virus.

They theorize that if a key function of the body's immune system can be pinpointed, it could be the first step toward developing a vaccine.

"There have been many promising candidates for a possible vaccine over the years, but we've only been able to fully understand the immune system's function in the last five years," Lang said. "To develop a new vaccine, we realized we first have to study and understand the immune system."

Lang said their work will focus on researching the basic antibody responses from Natural Killer-like T-cells. A potential vaccine would contain NKT cells and would boost the immune system's antibodies, which fight outside invaders such as HIV by blocking them from entering cells or giving the immune system enough of a boost to kill the invaders.

NKT cells, which have been a part of research into cancer and other diseases, have not previously been the focus of HIV research, Lang said.

The research will last 18 months, with tests being performed on mice. The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology is giving $300,000 toward the research, and if the research proves promising, Lang and West will apply to the National Institutes of Health for more funding.

"If we are successful, we will have made an important contribution to the field, but we will still be several steps away from an effective vaccine," Lang said.

Lang said that in a best-case scenario, their research could lead to a vaccine ready for use in about four years.

The development of a vaccine is key in stopping the spread of HIV and AIDS, said Sunshine Schillings, an education and grants coordinator for the Oklahoma AIDS Care Fund.

"It is critically important that we identify those that are infected and get them treatment," Schillings said. "However, that alone will not stop the epidemic. We need to prevent new infections."

David Foucher is an accredited member of the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association and the Online Film Critics Society.

Reform Groups to Legislature: Clean It Up

Government reform groups representing the entire political spectrum converged at the state capitol today insisting that state officials improve the process for developing and passing the annual state budget.

Noting that timely passage of the state budget has become a rare occurrence, Common Cause/PA Vice Chair for Issues, Sandra Christianson, called the current budget process "a sheer disaster" and carries the potential to unnecessarily inflict havoc throughout the state.

The organization reissued its proposal to require a disciplined methodical system for creating, reviewing, modifying and voting on the annual general appropriations bill. The citizens' lobby proposal calls for enacting a statute that would establish

•a systemic process for creating and passing the annual state budget;

•a mandatory timetable for essential budgeting activities;

•penalties for failing to meet required essential deadlines;

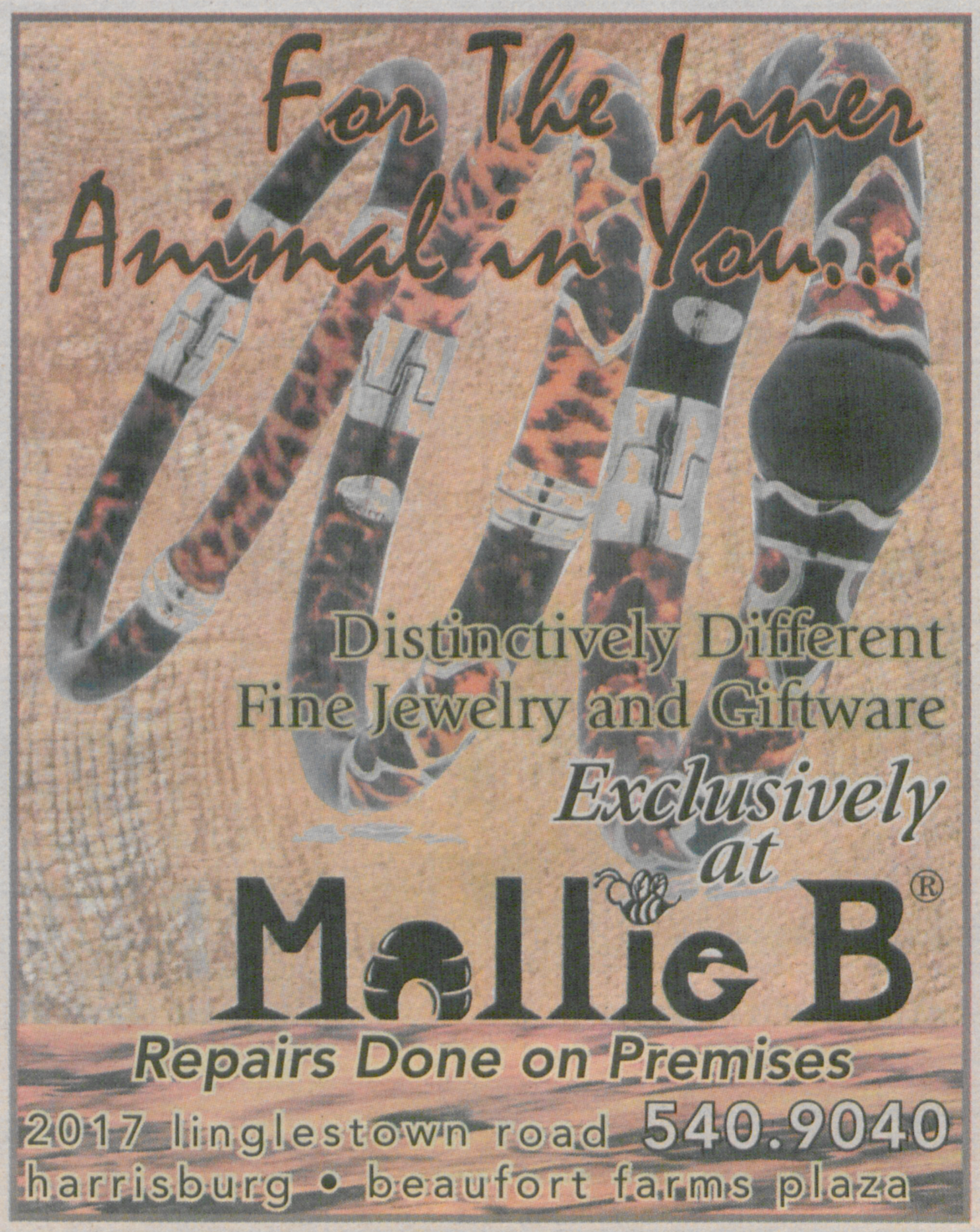
•automatic continuation of the prior year's budget if the June 30 enactment deadline is missed; coupled with salary forfeiture for the Governor, cabinet secretaries and all legislators until a new budget is enacted; and

•requirements that budget deliberations be subject to the Sunshine law.

Christianson stated that this proposal, which the organization originally presented in 1991, places the burdens and penalties for failure to achieve timely enactment of the state budget on the shoulders of the responsible elected officials instead of on innocent taxpayers, state workers and citizens. She also noted that had the Common Cause proposed system been in place this year, there would have been no furloughs of state workers, parks and museums would have remained open, road maintenance work would have continued uninterrupted, and other vital services such as those that elderly and disabled people depend on would not have been threatened.

"The time for excuses and finger-pointing is over. The time for fixing the budget process is long-overdue. It is time to stop holding the people of Pennsylvania hostage over political gain and gamesmanship. It is time to impose discipline on the budget process, and to penalize the officials who ignore the law and their responsibilities instead of the law-abiding taxpayers and citizens of this Commonwealth" said Christianson.

The reform group plans to deliver copies of the reformed budget process to legislative leaders today. Common Cause/PA officials indicated they believe the environment may now be right for the legislature to tackle this problem which annually afflicts Pennsylvania.



American Road Trip: Mammy's Cupboard in Natchez, Mississippi

By Christopher Tittel
Key West Correspondent

Summer road trips are special.

No other activity gives me a greater appreciation for the freedoms that we enjoy in this country. We're free to speed up, slow down, turn where we want, stop where we want, eat where we want, sleep where we want, listen to what we want.

Randomness is the order of the day, with no rhyme or reason to the timing of the sights we see out the window and the sounds we hear on the car stereo.

Freedoms make each road trip unique and memorable.

My recent trek across the Deep South is no exception.

Destination: Mammy's Cupboard, a 1940s diner built in the shape of a giant mammy on the outskirts of Natchez, Mississippi. Mammy comes complete with red kerchief, ample bosom and wide pink hoopskirt. Once as dark-skinned as Hattie McDaniel herself, time, weather and a bit of pancake makeup have lightened Mammy considerably.

Mammy was originally meant to serve road-weary tourists making their way to this Civil War town's annual house and garden tours. Today, she's revered far and wide as an eatery with signature chicken dishes and blueberry lemonade and award-winning meringue pies a mile high.

She's also a landmark that many locals hold near and dear to their hearts, so much so that townsfolk (both white and black) raised public outcry in the 1970s upon learning of plans to sacrifice Mammy to the wrecking ball in favor of widening Highway 61. (One local paper carried the headline: "Mammy in Way of Progress.")

I make the long trek from Key West to Mammy for a play that I'm writing, a play about how this anachronism could have survived civil rights and political correctness for so long.

Mapquest tells me that the drive from my home to Mammy will take 18 hours and cover more than 1,160 miles.

I head out just after 1 a.m. on July 8. The drive up the Keys and across Alligator Alley is uneventful. It's pitch black, after all, so I'm not likely to see anything more ironic than astronomical gasoline bills charged to a card with less-than-astronomical credit.

It's sunrise and I'm riding through Naples, past acres and acres of gated communities, when Brian Johnson, lead singer for AC/DC, appears

continued on page 37

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Lancaster County

The Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center is available to help you make your visit to Lancaster County the most fun it can be! Please feel free to call 717-684-5249 or stop by 445 Linden Street, Columbia, PA.

19th Annual Bridge Bust

Oct. 6 visitors can enjoy a one of a kind event with 300 antiques, arts, crafts, and food stands span the Susquehanna River on the Veteran's Memorial Bridge for this one day event. Admission $2 for adults. Information: Call Amy Hooper 717-684-5249. www.parivertowns.

Lancaster City Events

September-October
Partial Listing

9/1-9/3 - Long's Park Art & Craft Festival
9/7 – First Friday, all day
9/8 – Hometown Day
9/29 - Curtain Call: Fulton Anniversary Gala
10/5 - "Dancing Through Time: The Amazing John Durang"
10/5-10/7 - Lancaster Symphony Orchestra: Romero & Flamenco Guitar Premiere

Barry L. Russell Explains Rainbow Rose Community Efforts

By Barry L. Russell

I am founder and director of a newly formed non-profit organization called Rainbow Rose Community – the organizational sponsor of Lancaster Pride Arts and Entertainment Festival. As Chair of the Pride Committee I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have expressed support for this event through their time, financial generosity and encouragement. While disappointed this year's Festival had to be canceled, we have taken the lessons learned and are moving forward in planning and implementing next year's event.

Some ask why a need for a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration? Next year's festival scheduled for June 28, 2008 will honor and commemorate the 39th Anniversary of Stonewall – a pivotal event in glbt history – the day when a group of determined NYC drag queens and transgender folk got sick and tired of the abuse they were forced to endure and decided they weren't going to take it anymore. They banded together, formed a community and began fighting the forces of intolerance and hate. Most describe that day at Stonewall as the birth of the gay liberation movement. Might I suggest that just the idea of a Lancaster Pride Arts and Entertainment Festival is in some ways, Lancaster's Stonewall?

Our world today is a far different place for glbt folks than it was in 1969. In some ways the pace of change has been breathtaking, bringing with it non-discrimination laws in about 17 states, the District of Columbia and hundreds of cities, towns and counties; the end of sodomy laws nationwide; legal marriage in Massachusetts and civil unions in Vermont and Connecticut; marriage equality or civil unions in Canada, South Africa and much of western Europe; a record number of openly glbt elected officials from coast to coast; and a growing acceptance of LGBT people throughout society.

However, progress continues to go hand in hand with setbacks and tragedies. Nearly half of all states have amended their constitutions to deny glbt Americans marriage equality; hate crimes against the gay community continue to rise; elected officials and other political groups use our community as a scare tactic to turn out voters; glbt and questioning youth are several times more likely to commit suicide than their peers in the general population; too many of our brothers and sisters have been lost over the last 40 years to HIV and AIDS; and far too many of us continue to be infected with HIV or plagued by substance abuse.

I'm proud to say I live in a City; Lancaster that was at the forefront in the early 1990's to include sexual orientation as a protected class in its non-discrimination policy. However, people who identify themselves as part of the glbt community, that choose to reside outside the city limits are not afforded this protection and live daily with the real fear of job loss, housing denial or worse.

Despite some great advances made since 1969, we have not yet reached what I believe should be our final destination and goal: full equality under the law and full and equal acceptance into society. Let me suggest to you, however, that this is not merely about being gay-straight, black-white, man–woman, Hispanic-Asian, Jew-Gentile, believer or Atheist or any of the other labels we use to divide ourselves as people. It's about each and everyone one of us being included as full members and active participants in the human family. When there is not equality for everyone, or when there has been denied equality for just one, there has been denied equality for us all.

When the Don Imus story hit the news recently, Harvey Fierstein had this to say. "The real point is that you cannot harbor malice toward others and then cry foul when someone displays intolerance against you. Prejudice tolerated is intolerance encouraged. Rise up in righteousness when you witness the words and deeds of hate, but only if you are willing to rise up against them all, including your own. Otherwise suffer the slings and arrows of disrespect silently."

I'd like to close with these thoughts. A Pride event, in whatever form it takes, whether an Interfaith service, movie night or a festival in a park, gives each and everyone a chance to feel the positive spirit, power and strength of community. Pride allows us to emerge from the shadows of oppression, hatred and shame that our opponents continue to try to cover us with. With rainbow colors all around we will sing, dance and be with our families, friends and allies freely in the sun and see how full and rich our lives really are. We can be ourselves and realize that there is no shame in who we are. And we can organize to make sure that our advance to our final goal is steady and as rapid as possible. Whether as a volunteer or attendee, I hope to see each and everyone of you June 28, 2008. Take care and God's Speed.

Barry L. Russell, 45 N. Market St., Central Market Mall, Lancaster PA 17603; 717.380.1071.

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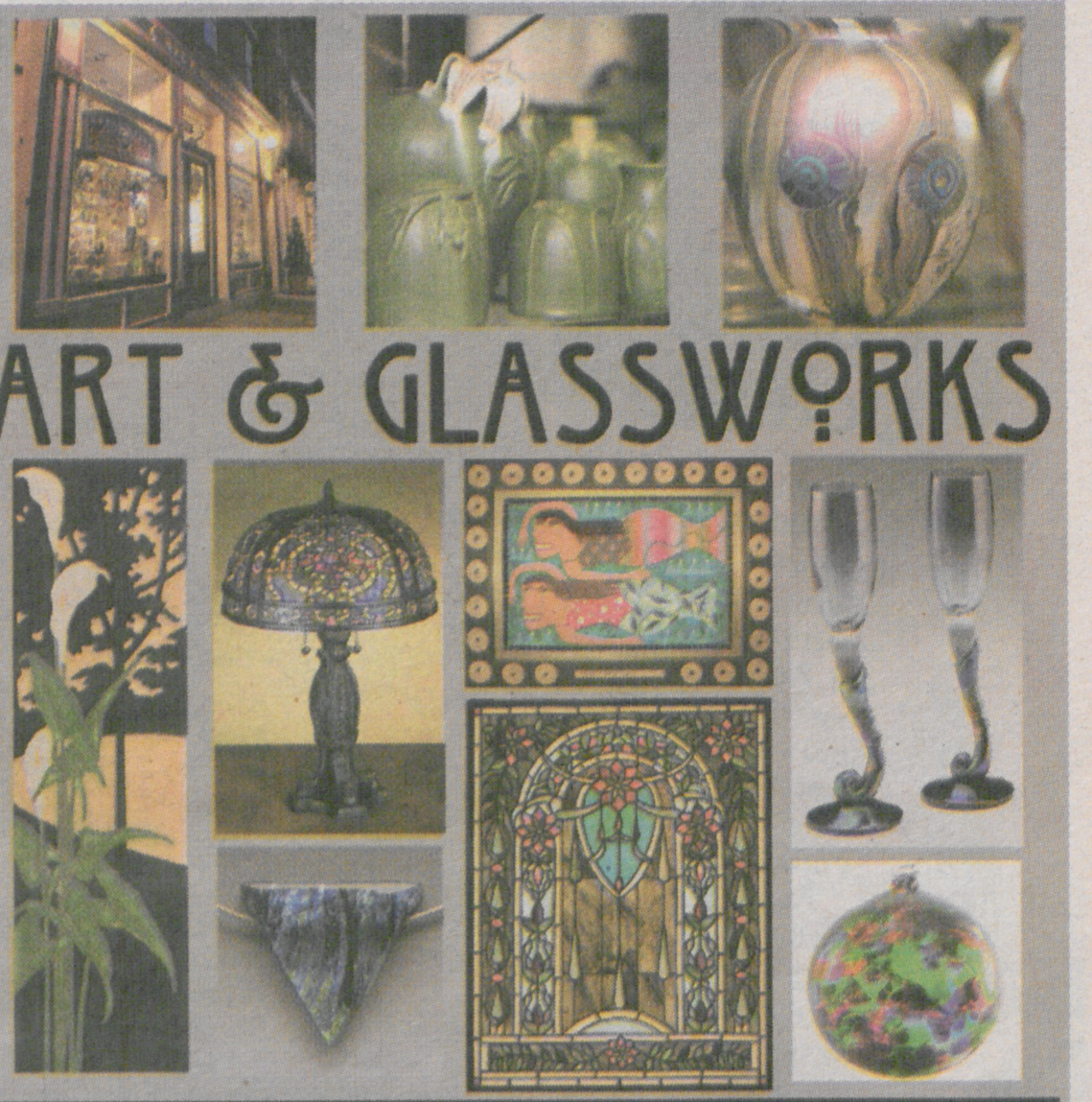

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Pride Photos by Kristen Richards, CJ Smith, Jeb Stewart

Pride 2007

Open Letter to the Community

I would like to thank everyone who came out to our events during our Pride days July 27-28. Your attendance made all of our events a huge success!

I also would like to thank all of our Vendors, Volunteers and Entertainers. I hope the work of the Pride and Parade Committees and its Volunteers earned your respect and appreciation. I hope you will continue to support Pride, our Parade and the Voices United Concert.

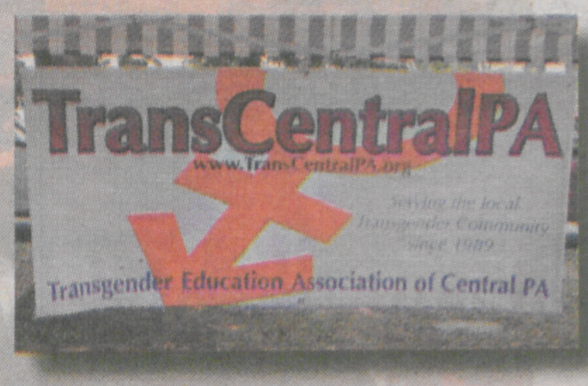
Our hope is to continue the momentum and expand Pride events to an entire weekend.

As Chair I pledge to continue seeking out all groups in the community in order to plan and help with making Pride even better. I hope to continue having the community's support as we build the Pride Committee.

Thank you for providing me with a most humbling experience of serving for the first time as Chair Pride. My own words cannot express how I feel after receiving so many kind words from so many people.

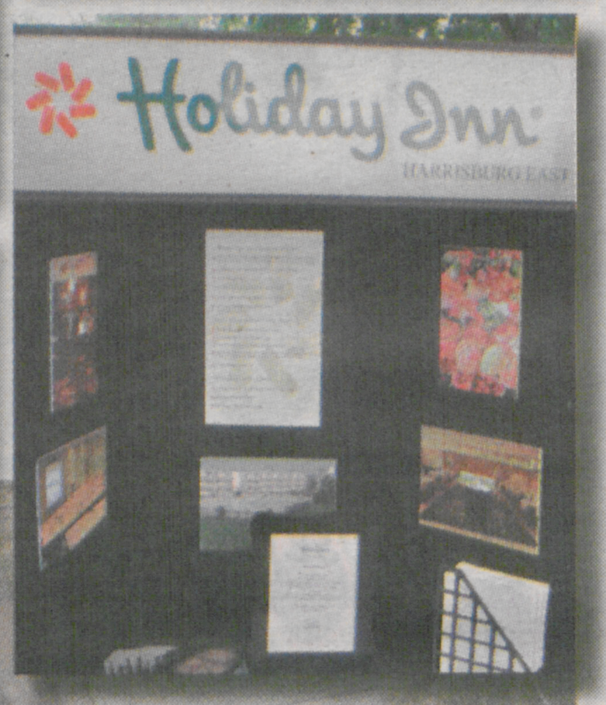
Thanks again!

Dave Walker
Pride 2007 Chair



PrideFest 2007 • PrideFest 2007

Pride Photos by Kristen Richards, CJ Smith, Jeb Stewart



CINEMA CENTER

The Brave One

Starring: Jodie Foster, Terrence Howard
Directed By: Neil Jordan
Rated: R
Release Date: September 14, 2007

For New York radio host Erica Bain [Foster] life is amazing. She has a job that she loves, and a fiancé who is crazy over her. But, a brutal attack leaves Erica terribly wounded and her fiancé deceased. When after a few weeks she cannot move past the event, Erica decides to take matters into her own hands and go after the men that she holds responsible for her pain. However, a police detective [Howard] is not convinced that what Erica is doing is the right thing and is hot on her trail trying to put a stop to her unruly quest for justice.

Run, Fat Boy, Run

Starring: Simon Pegg, Dylan Moran, Thandie Newton
Directed By: David Schwimmer
Rated: PG-13
Release Date: September 28, 2007

Ten years ago, an extremely lazy man with massive commitment problems ditched his pregnant girlfriend on the day of their wedding. Now, Dennis [Pegg] is no different of a man, but he is just realizing how big of a mistake he made. When Dennis attempts to win back his ex [Newton] he is shocked to find out that someone else has already taken her heart. So, Dennis tries to prove himself by being less lazy and training to run a marathon with his best friend [Moran] as his coach.

Elizabeth: The Golden Age

Starring: Cate Blanchett, Clive Owen
Directed By: Shekhar Kapur
Rated: PG-13
Release Date: October 12, 2007

The sequel to Elizabeth, this is a movie about the Queen of England and her determination to keep her country safe. Queen Elizabeth [Blanchett] is beginning to find her reign challenged by King Phillip II of Spain, who is readily backed up by her cousin, Mary Queen of Scots, who is attempting to conquer a wider rule. While Elizabeth is preparing her country for war, she is slightly distracted by an unexpected attraction to Sir Walter Raleigh [Owen]. Though he does not feel the same way for her, so Elizabeth hints to her favorite lady in waiting to befriend him to keep him close, though this forces her to observe their growing intimacy.

The Heartbreak Kid

Starring: Ben Stiller, Malin Akerman, Rob Corddry, Michelle Monaghan
Directed By: Bobby and Peter Farrelly
Rated: R
Release Date: October 5, 2007

Eddie [Stiller], is the last remaining bachelor out of his friends and family and he definitely gets teased enough for it. So, when Eddie begins dating the beautiful Lila [Akerman] he feels the pressure and proposes to her within a week. After a hasty wedding, the two set out for their honeymoon in Cabo. Almost directed after the start of the marriage though, Eddie realizes that Lila is far from the girl of his dreams. All of his troubles seemingly disappear when he meets Miranda, his true soul mate. So, in order to win over his new love, Eddie has to keep his monster of a wife out of the way while he dates Miranda without her knowledge.

Mr. Woodcock

Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Sean William Scott, Susan Sarandon
Rated: PG-13
Release Date: September 14, 2007

When self help author John Farley [Scott] returns home to find out that his mother [Sarandon] has fallen for his old gym teacher, Mr. Woodcock [Thornton], he is mortified. The thought that the man who made his life terrible during his years at school would be his new stepfather was more than he could handle. So, in his determination to split up the happy couple, John devises a plan to get revenge on Mr. Woodcock.

For all Cinema Center locations and show times:
www.cinemacenter.com

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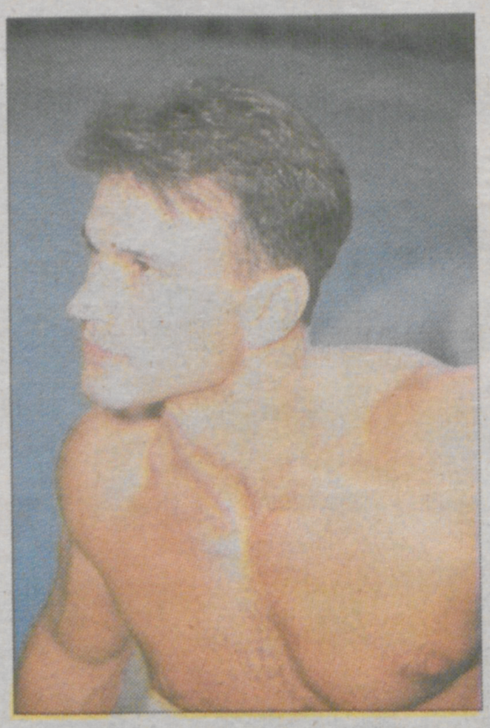

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ARTS at 510 Hosts September Exhibit & Reception

Mary Mark: Nostalgic Reveries: Italian Country Sides & Trattoria

Susan Schreckengaust of ARTS at 510, 510 North Third Street, Harrisburg, along with Mary Mark and David Johnson of Lost Steeple Originals, the national original art distributor from Cincinnati, proudly announce a one-woman show of Mary Mark's original oil pastels and linoleum block prints.

"Nostalgic Reveries: Italian Country Sides and Trattoria" will open on Saturday, September 8. Ms. Mark will be at the gallery on Sunday, September 9 during the Art Association of Harrisburg's 19th Annual Gallery Walk which runs from 11 to 6 pm. The exhibition runs through October 1.

2. "Coffee Shop"

1. "Old Europe"

Mary Mark is one of the finest and most sought-after relief block printmaking artists in America. Her distinctive contemporary interpretation of this ancient art form is frequently enhanced by the unique incorporation of hand-painted frames that are inextricably linked to the artwork they surround.

Designed and produced by her husband, David Johnson, this handcrafted encasement in collaboration with the original print is inspired by the 19th and 20th century arts and crafts movement. Along with the belief that art is life and art is for everyone, Mary and David have created a devoted base of art collectors throughout the United States and abroad. Trained as a printmaker and painter at Ohio University in Athens, Mary has been widely recognized for her linoleum block prints depicting sumptuously designed locations for silent reverie. Her current works can be seen anytime at www.marymark.com.

Arts at 510 is downtown Harrisburg's newest

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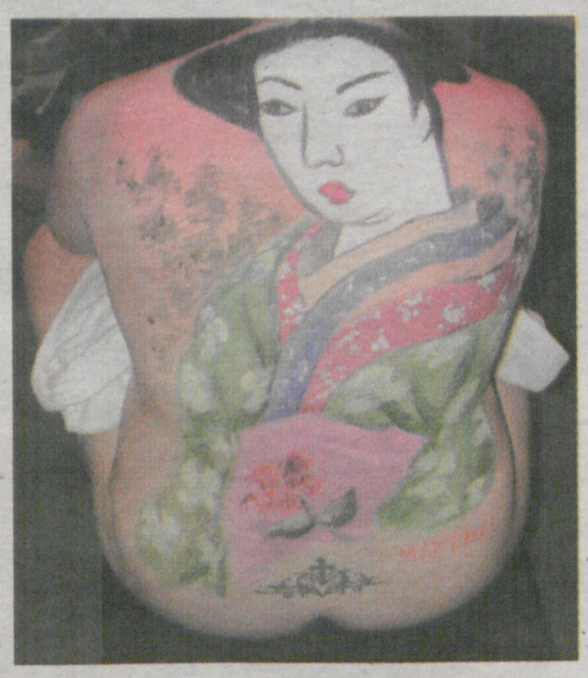

"A Body of Art," a special performance art show was held recently at thriving **2nd Floor Gallery**, Mechanicsburg. The show featured paintings, sculptures, photography, and body art. Photographers used light and fabrics to capture models. Local Tattoo artists' work was also on display. Information: www.2ndfloorgallery.com; 717-697-0502.

New Cumberland

GlassWorx Hot Glass Studio Opens

GlassWorx hot glass studio, pictured here, recently opened at 311 N. Bridge St,

downtown New Cumberland, PA. Artist/owner Patricia Xenos brings two decades of commitment to hot glass to the area.

Born and raised in Athens, Greece, her interest in glass and art began at an early age where she was surrounded by antiquity. Xenos later graduated from Carnegie Mellon University, studying Hot Glass and Painting. She continued her education while apprenticing with world famous glass teachers.

In 1994, she opened GlassWorx in Harrisburg, PA. Patricia's art and glass combines images that can be viewed from all sides, achieving perfect

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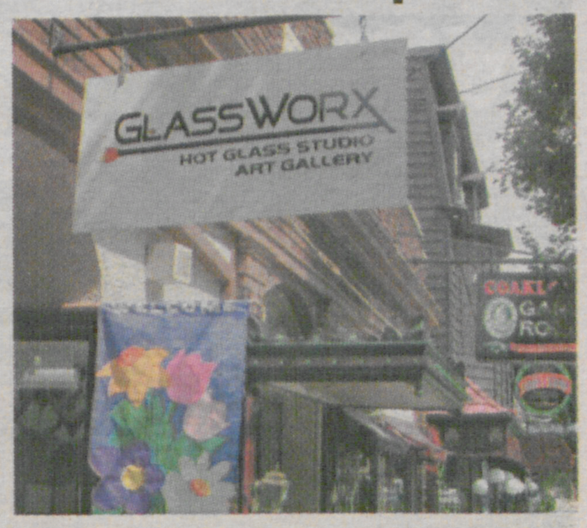
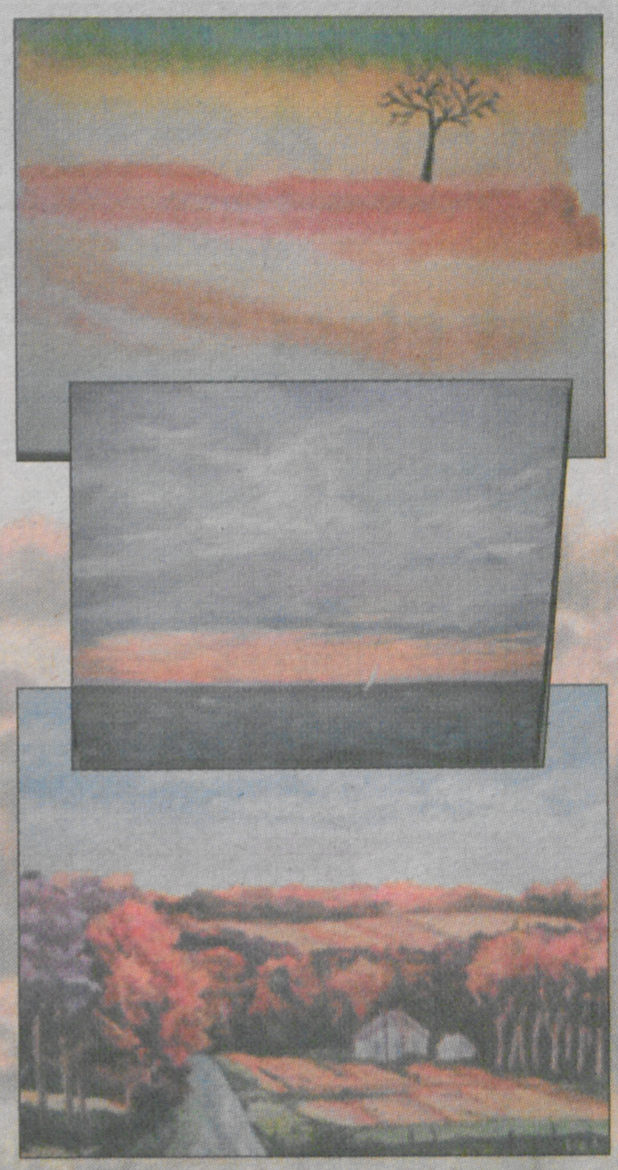


3rd Street Gallery



September Show-

The 3rd St. Gallery Students

Show ends Sept. 30, 2007

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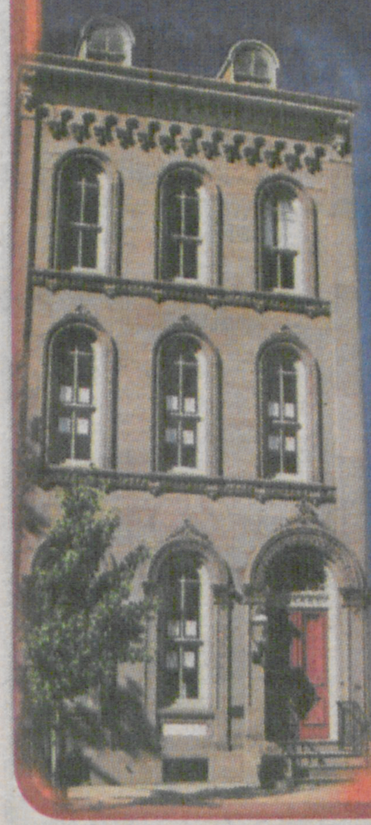
"Myths & Enchantments,"
AAH Fall Membership Exhibition
Sept. 9-Oct. 11 - Opening Gallery Walk Day, 11AM-6 PM
(Music by Homage Acadienne)

ART ASSOCIATION OF HARRISBURG

One Night Stand Exhibition
At Molly Brannigan's
2nd and Walnut Street, Harrisburg
September 16,4-7 PM • $10 donation, complimentary hors d'ouevres, cash bar, emerging artists' varied works.



Discovery Day art and antique appraisals
Sunday Oct. 14, 1-4 PM
with Noel Marks, Terry Breidenstine, and coin appraisals by Scott Thomas.
$5 admission, $10 per item to be appraised.

Invitational Exhibition
Oct. 19-Nov.22
Opening reception
Friday, Oct. 19,5-8 PM.
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- Watercolours by Nancy McDonald
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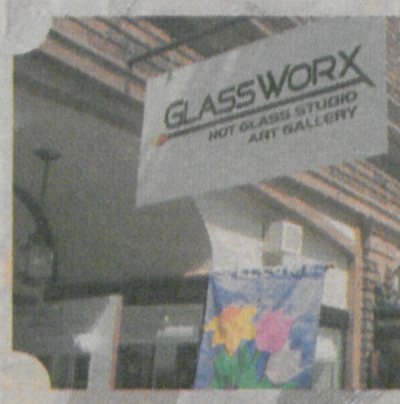

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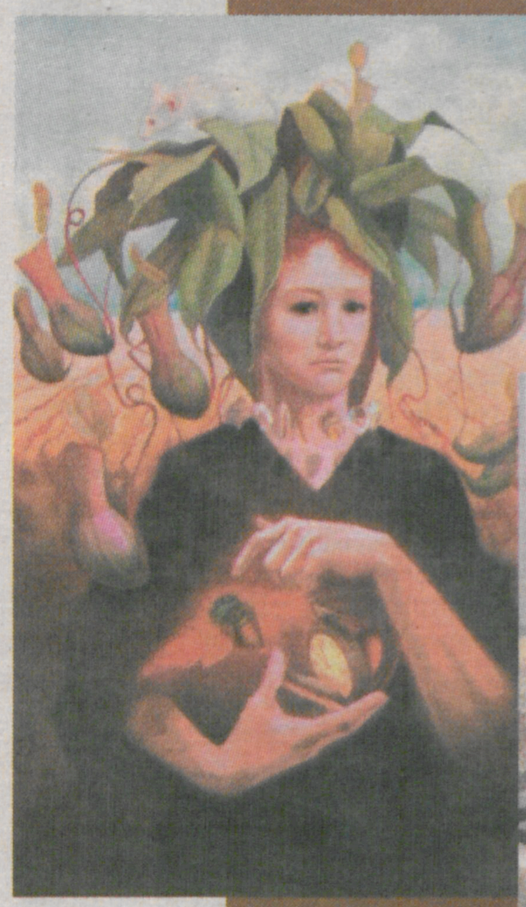

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"Gallery Saturday" **– Sept. 18th**
Open Wine and Cheese
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Featured artists:
Emma Burns and Rebecca Lesny

"Gallery Saturday" **– Oct. 20th**
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Featured artists:
"Monster Group Show" and
Mary-Louise Biasotti Hooper

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"1st Friday" **– September 7th**
Open Wine and Cheese
Artist Reception. 6pm to 9pm
Featured artists: *Domnick Brandt and Marsha Lucidi*

"1st Friday" **– October 5th**
Open Wine and Cheese
Artist Reception. 6pm to 9pm
Featured artists: *Ryan Stroup, Carol Galligan and Cynthia Hardwicke*

Special Event: **Meet International Artist - P. Buckley Moss Friday - November 23rd and Saturday - November 24th** *For more info: (717) 591-6940.*

Artist receptions are free to the public with refreshments, live music and great art. Everyone welcome. Come meet all the artists who have work in our galleries. Bring your friends. New featured artists each month and always new work to choose from.

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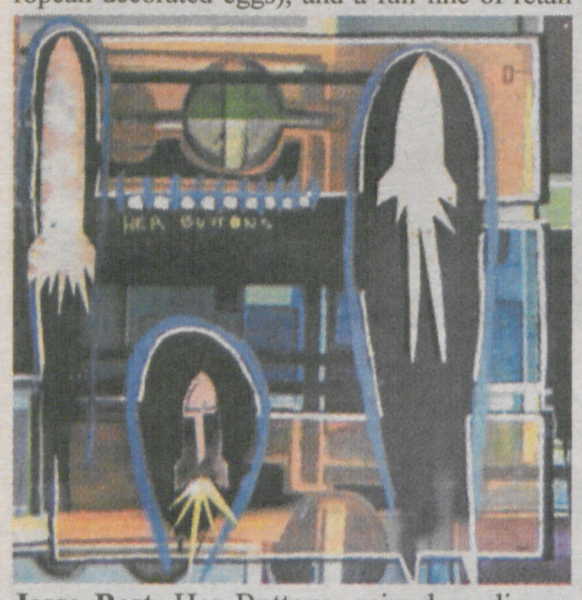
Warhol Family

Slovakian Tradition & Pop Culture: Art of the Warhola Family

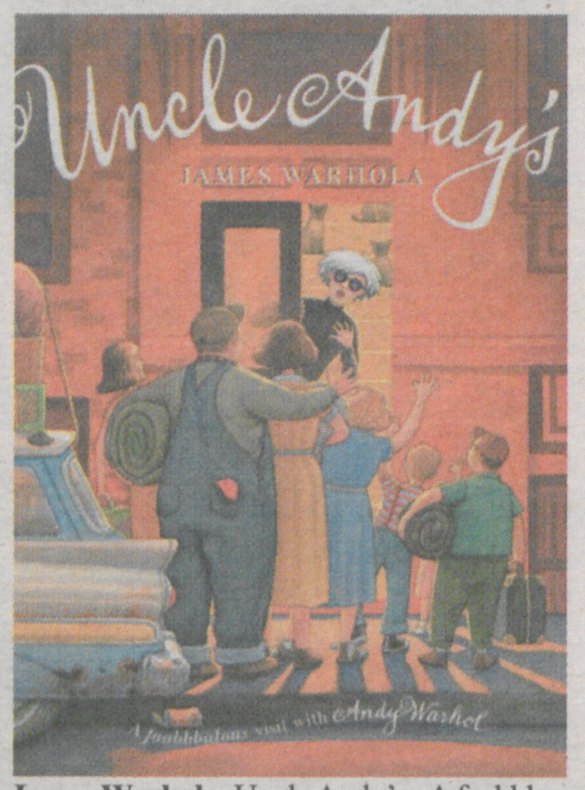
In October-November 2007, Smile Gallery will host an exhibition featuring the work of Andy Warhol's family, curated by Art Historian Dr. Debra Miller. Smile Gallery is located at 105 S. 22nd St., Philadelphia, PA 19103; 215.564.2502.

Inspired by both the folk art of their ancestral Slovakia, and the Pop art that skyrocketed Andy to international fame and fortune, the show will include three generations of Warhola artists (Andy's brother Paul, nephews Jamie and Marty, niece Madalen, and Madalen's daughter and son-in-law Abby Hoover and Jesse Best).

Exhibited works range from fine art (paintings, silkscreens, and found-object assemblages) to folk art (pysanki—traditional Eastern European decorated eggs), and a full line of retail merchandise (children's books illustrated by Jamie; hand-pulled silkscreened tee-shirts and envelopes with date of issue USPS Warhol stamps from Madalen's WarholaWear line; refrigerator magnets and mirrors from The Factory Store), with prices beginning at only $4.00!



Jesse Best, Her Buttons, mixed media on wood



James Warhola, Uncle Andy's: A faabbbulous visit with Andy Warhol, illustrated children's book

The artists will be in town for the opening re-

continued on page 28

Thomas Kinkade Personal Appearance

Benefiting United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA

Saturday, October 6th from 8:30 am - Noon at the Harrisburg Hilton.

Tickets available at Kathies Christmas

Thomas Kinkade – "*The Christmas Cottage*"
(The painting for the movie about Thomas Kinkade)

This is the only appearance that Thomas Kinkade will make in the Northeast before the release of "The Christmas Cottage." A movie about his early career staring Peter O'Toole.

Thomas Kinkade will do an original sketch at the event with proceeds going to United Cerebral Palsy.

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Featured Artist: Andrew Guth

Andrew Guth's work has been shown in Philadelphia, NY, Washington DC, Baltimore, Harrisburg and is included in a number of private collections throughout the U.S. Guth, a PA native, is currently the Co-Director of the Mantis Collective Gallery in Harrisburg, Pa and a member of the film organization MOVIATE.

Artist Reception:
Friday, Sept. 14, 2007, 7:00-9:00 PM

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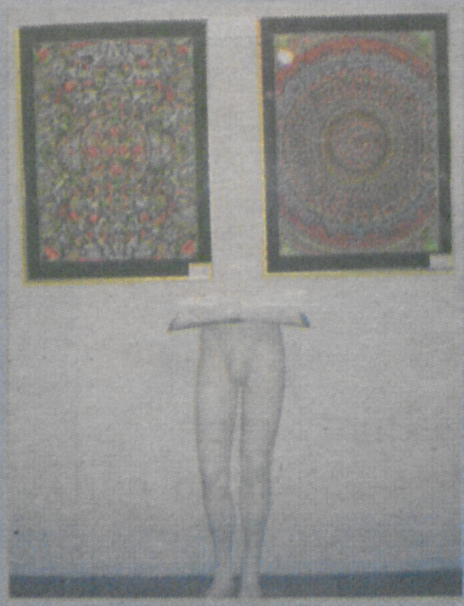
Harrisburg Gallery Walk September 9

The 19th Annual Harrisburg Gallery Walk is Sunday, September 9, 11 AM - 6 PM with 26 exhibition sites participating.

continued on next page

Chamber of Commerce Meets at The Paper Lion Gallery

Paper Lion Gallery co-owner, left, Bill Grace, Central Voice sales executive Kristen Richards, and gallery co-owner Jim Hatfield recently hosted the Central PA Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.



Paper Lion Gallery offers ceramics, framing, vintage posters, fine art paintings and more for the discerning buyer.

continued on next page

Art Goes Public in Olde Towne East

York- Newly arrived artists are changing the landscape of the Olde Towne East neighborhood in York City. Walking into the neighborhood on Market Street one sees an oversized vase with plastic flags outside a potter's studio and apartment. A few doors down, an artist who relocated from New York City is setting up a studio in his home.

The new flavor has been encouraged by the YWCA, organizer of the Community Renaissance Project for Olde Towne East. Artists are attracted to the neighborhood because they can walk downtown and afford to buy an historic, large home that can also serve as a studio. All this neighborhood charm and Olde Towne East is just a short drive from major art hubs in New York and Philadelphia.

Not only are artists transforming properties, they are also transforming the neighborhood. Soon, more art will be appearing on the streets of Olde Towne East. In collaboration with the Redevelopment Authority of York and YorkArts, the YWCA has commissioned local artist Ophelia Chambliss to create public art to be displayed on the corner of Princess and Queen Streets, in the heart of Olde Towne East. The installation of the art has been a thoughtful process that included neighborhood residents in the planning. Residents were surveyed to determine what was special about Olde Towne East. Answers included the history, diverse cultures, and their dreams for the neighborhood. Ms. Chambliss took these ideas and is incorporating them into brightly-colored collages painted on large steel panels. Work on the panels is underway in her garage studio and the artwork is expected to be installed at the intersection by the end of the year.

Organizers of the project expect the art to draw people to the neighborhood as well as strengthen neighborhood pride among current residents. According to Ms. Chambliss; "Improvements like this in the city will have a positive affect on all of York County. It can bring attention to the neighborhood and may even attract more artists to live in the neighborhood. Visitors and residents alike will enjoy this art for years to come."

The art project is part of the transformation of the neighborhood gateway which will include the installation of a pedestrian walkway and sitting area, new benches, and planters. Funding for the project was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, York County government and the York County Community Foundation.

In 2003, the YWCA of York and the Olde Towne East Neighborhood Association began a comprehensive revitalization project within the neighborhood called the Community Renaissance Project. The goal of the project is to create a safe, thriving, and attractive place to live. The project has received state, local, and private funding and has included new and rehabbed housing, new streetscapes and crime prevention initiatives. For more information about the Community Renaissance Project, call Jane Conover at 717-845-2631.

Glassworx continued

harmony in one glass form. Her glass has been exhibited in galleries and associations nationally.

Molten glass is heated in the Hot Working Oven to 2150 degrees. It is gathered with the heated Blowpipe and quickly shaped and an air bubble then is blown inside the glass attached to the pipe. The piece is continuously turned while shaping and working the glass. The entire process is repeated until the piece is of the desired size. The final product was grinded and polished (glass vase) pictured here. Information on classes, glass or art, call 717-319-0848; www.glassworxstudio.com

Chamber meets at Paper Lion continued

Jeff Welshans, PHEAA, and Alex Reber, Miller,Drake & Dixon, mix and mingle at the Paper Lion Gallery.

Glass Blower Michael J. Peluso ("You Dream it, I'll Breathe it.") demonstrated his art for members of the Central PA Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.

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Paper Lion has provided services to:

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•Hershey Lodge & Convention Center
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•Hershey Park

Harrisburg Gallery Walk 2007

Walk & Drive

Gallery Walk, once literally a "walking" tour, has evolved into a walking AND driving tour, with a handful of sites now well outside the downtown. Mitrani at Home, at 3535 Walnut Street, is beyond Reservoir Mansion, east towards Route 22, but well worth the drive. The Rose Lehrman Art Gallery at Harrisburg Area Community College is a drive away in the opposite direction, west on Cameron Street.

Another way that Gallery Walk has evolved is in embracing outdoor artistic activities, such as the "Seven Lively Artists & More Paint Midtown - Part III," and the "Route 15 Byway of the Arts, PA Artisan Trail," at the Milestone Inn at 2701 N. Front Street, where artists and craftspeople will be demonstrating their skills under a spreading white tent on the lawn overlooking the Susquehanna River.

Art & Soul of City

Ever-evolving and becoming more dynamic and diverse each year, Gallery Walk remains first and foremost a gigantic promotion of the fine arts in our community. "Celebrate the Art and Soul of the City" with this free, self-guided tour. Pick up the brochure with map at the Art Association of Harrisburg, 21 N. Front St., and head out on the tour.

Myths & Enchantments

The Art Association will feature "Myths and Enchantments," the Fall Membership Exhibition with artwork imbued with magic and fantasy, enhanced throughout the day by music by Homage Acadienne. Head south to the John Harris Mansion to enjoy artwork by six area artists, and then north to St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral House Gallery to view works by both professional artists of the parish and several international artists as well.

VQC Designs

New on Gallery Walk this year is VQC Designs on the fourth floor of 112 Market Street, the Veterans' Building, showing works by a variety of emerging artists. The Harrisburg Downtown Improvement District's Visitors Centre, corner of Second and Walnut, will highlight the Boston Impressionist paintings by Bryan Molloy, and Penn National Insurance's lobby at 2 N. Second will feature plein air landscapes by Cathy Mabius. At Whitaker Centre for Science and the Arts, "Community Global Neighborhoods" will be imported from the Nicole Gallery of Chicago.

Strawberry Square

Strawberry Square will be bursting with exhibits in the Atrium and the storefront across from Dress Barn, as well as artist demonstrations, a silent auction, and live music. LaFemme Jolie at 7 N. Third boasts a partnership with Hobson's Choice, an elegant line of European leather goods. At Susquehanna Art Museum, 301 Market, "Photography as Fine Art" and Doshi Gallery's "Not Naked" are the attractions.

The Gallery at Walnut Place, 413 Walnut, will showcase resident artists' works in "Your World of Art, Denied," as well as mucis by Andrew Bellanca. Arts at 510 on Third St. will offer works by Mary Mark of Ohio, as well as pottery, handblown glass, and jewelry.

Gallery Walk, Sept. 9 continued

Mangia Qui

At Mangia Qui & Suba, also on North Street, works by Brasilian artist Elide Hower will be shown, along with sculptures by Staci Basore. Brunch and sangria are Mangia Qui's other attractions! At Pine Street Presbyterian Church's gallery one will see paintings and wood sculptures by three artist parishioners, as well as the opportunity to enjoy organ recitals. The Mantis Collective on North Street will present "Rambo," a four-artist exhibit of paintings, ceramics and mixed mediaThe 2007 Art of the State will conclude at The State Museum of Pennsylvania, with Radius, HACC's museum shop, offering "Tea Traditions," crafts associated with tea.

Midtown Cinema

Women Create! will exhibit "Colourful Women" at the Midtown Scholar Bookstore, 1519 N. Third, where visitors may participate in the painting of a large canvas. The Harrisburg Camera Club returns to Midtown Cinema on Reily St. to show "Quotable Photographs." Movies are the other draw at the Midtown! Riverside Framing and Gallery at the corner of Second and Reiley consistently shows quality works by local artists. The Governor's Residence (now one must start driving and put away the walking shoes!) will offer a real treat in an exhibit of works painted at the Mansion by the AAH Landscape Class taught by John David Wissler, as well as a collection of historical artifacts connected with Governor Pennypacker.

B&B Milestone Inn

New this year is the "Route 15 Byway of the Arts" at the elegant riverside B&B Milestone Inn, 2701 N. Front St. Here artists, artisans and hospitality partners for the Byway of the Arts project will disply their wares as well as demonstrate their crafts. At Rose Lehrman Arts Centre Gallery, One HACC Drive, just off Cameron Street, works by HACC faculty will be displayed.

Reservoir Mansion

At the east end of town, visit Reservoir Mansion, just off State Street, to view photography by Michael Reed. Then, continue heading east through Penbrook until you reach Mitrani at Home, at 3535 Walnut Street. (State Street becomes Walnut Street, which then becomes Allentown Boulevard, and then Rt. 22!)Walking into Mitrani's spacious showroom is like walking into an exotic Middle Eastern bazaar, filled with oriental rugs, huge ceramic jars, sculptures, lamps, and original artwork. This visual feast is a fitting conclusion to a wonderful Gallery Walk experience!

Information: 717-236-1432. Gallery Walk is sponsored this year by The Patriot News, Flex Digital Imaging, and ABC27.

October 31st

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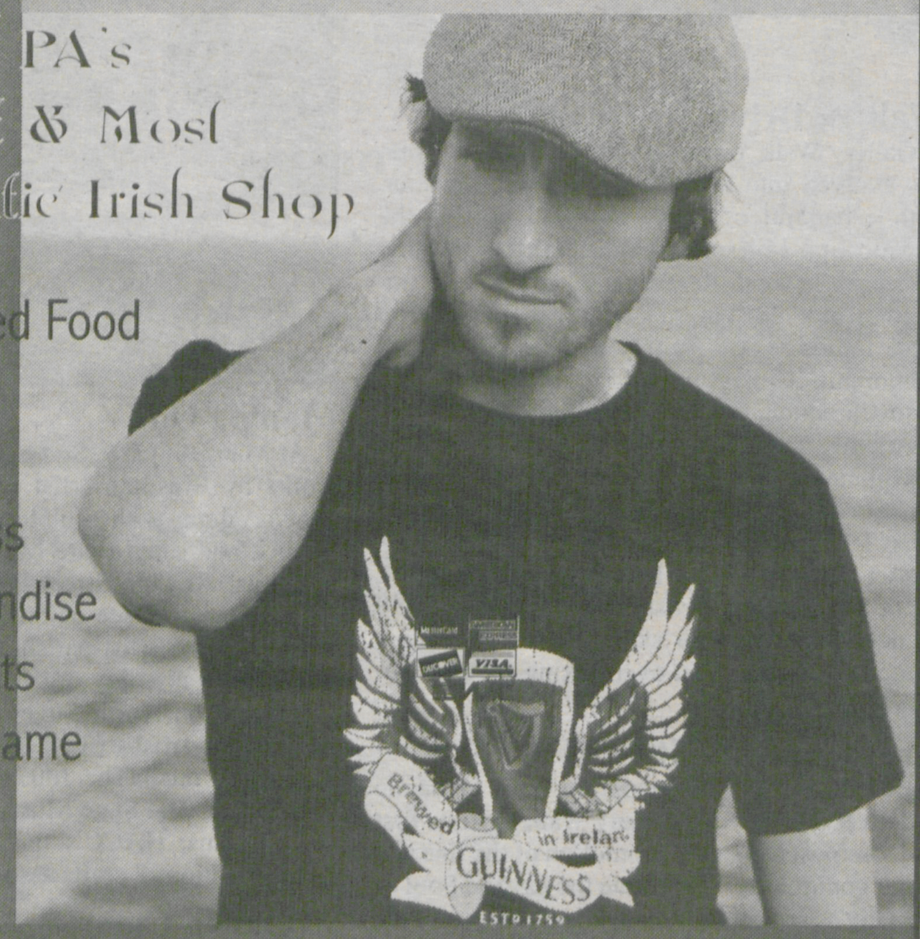

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Warhola continued

ception on Friday, 19 October, 6-9 pm, and will personally sign art, books, and retail items purchased that night.

Exhibition Dates:
October 19-November 7, 2007
Artists Reception:
Friday, 19 October, 6-9 pm
Gallery Hours:
M-F 12-9, Sat 5-9; closed Sun.

For more information, and to schedule interviews with the artists, please contact: debmiller1@hotmail.com.

Madalen Warhola, Eye and Smile (after Christopher Makos), photosilkscreen and paint

Kathie's Christmas Hosts Artist Thomas Kinkade

Kathie's Christmas & Collectibles, 3309 Hartzdale Drive, Camp Hill, will host artist Thomas Kinkade in a special personal appearance Sat., Oct. 6 at the Hilton Hotel & Towers, downtown Harrisburg. Tickets are FREE and can be picked up at the store. Tickets are limited to the first 500 people. Refreshments will be served.

Need more information? Call 236-8115 or 888-KXMASSS or kathieschristmas@aol.com.

Arts at 510 continued

3. "Montepulciano Muse"

destination arts gallery, offering a unique array of international, national, and local artists and craftspeople. Relocated from its long time suburban location, Schreckengaust recently said, "We are excited to be located in our beautiful Capital City in an appealing downtown historical space. We want to welcome visitors and clients to a destination rather than just a gallery. We are pleased to announce this major show from Mary Mark, a national artist who has been a consistent part of our stable for many years."

Hours: Tues. - Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., with extended hours for artist receptions and free-to-the-public Hang at 510 events, Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and other times by appointment. www.artsat510.com

In addition to the opening at Arts at 510, Ms. Mark will also be exhibiting art works at the 29th Annual Long's Park Art and Craft Festival Labor Day Weekend, Friday through Monday, August 31 to September 3, 2007, 10 am to 6 pm (closes 5 pm Monday), rain or shine. Also, she hopes to present a printmaking demonstration to the art department of Harrisburg Area Community College during that week.

Attachments: All works and quotes by Mary Mark

1. "Old Europe" – oil pastel on black gessoed , $2750, not yet framed

"Inspired by the medieval walkways and winding streets of the hill towns of Tuscany and Umbria, this arched street with its 'gathering place' patio displays the colorful detritus of our recent conversations now nostalgically past." -MM-

2. "Coffee Shop" – linoleum block print reduction process, in its own hand-crafted "Arts & Craft Movement" floater frame, $1450

"Inspired by the courtyard cafes of Italy, this neighborhood beverage source with its 'gathering place' patio peeking back from beyond displays the colorful detritus of human interactions recently past." -MM-

3. "Montepulciano Muse" – linoleum block print reduction process. In its own hand-crafted "Arts & Crafts Movement" floater frame, $1450

"Even years later, I still envision, think, dream and muse about the weeks spent transversing the Tuscan/Umbrian countryside. While not meant to be a pictorial rendering of a specific location, I can still see in my minds eye a walled town perched on top of a rolling hill, its ancient stone edifices glinting in the noon day sun." -MM-

Columbus Day (observed)
Monday, October 8

BEATBOX

By DJ Jimmy Newsum

Summer is in full swing, and with the season comes a slew of hot new beats. Here are some of the best for August.

A Woman's Touch

Thelma Houston (Shout! Factory)

Thelma Houston, the dynamic voice behind the disco anthem "Don't Leave Me This Way," is back with her first album in over 17 years. In a clever twist, Houston transforms songs made famous by some of the biggest male singers in R&B and pop. But she doesn't just put a female spin on the lyrics, she takes over and completely reworks the songs through soul, R&B, blues and dance floor filters. Ain't That Peculiar and Sting's Brand New Day get bluesy, sassy makeovers, while Disco Heat/Mighty Real (a nod to Houston's disco past and tribute to her old friend Sylvester) starts out as a poignant gospel song and closes with Studio 54-era exuberance. Houston rebuilds Jimmy Webb's By The Time I Get To Phoenix with incredible old school R&B flair. And then there's Thelma's triumphant return to her dance floor roots with Luther Vandross' Never Too Much. Houston proves some things are worth the wait. Go to ThelmaHouston.com for more info.

Courage Paula Cole (Decca)

Cole's first new album in eight years is both a breath of fresh air and a poignant reminder of the increasing scarcity of truly thoughtful, graceful singer/songwriters, at least on the pop charts. Her warm, ripe vocals and delicately haunting tunes, with their intuitive, unpretentious nods to jazz and world music, offer valuable lessons in the power of subtlety and restraint. Courage may not catapult Cole back into the spotlight, but its gentle boldness is something to treasure. Go to PaulaCole.com for more info.

Back To Love Rachel Panay (Act 2)

Rachel Panay hit the dance scene in 2003 with her first underground anthem, The Walk of Shame. Her next two singles, Back To Love and I Still Believe, propelled the young songstress to club icon status when both broke into Billboard's Top Ten. Fans clamored for a full album and thanks to dance label, Act 2, it is here. Panay's debut is a 15 track long-player filled with songs that brilliantly highlight the strengths of this bright new talent. Some of the highlights include Life Is Beautiful, Crazy, and the first single off the new album that everyone will be grooving to, It's Got to be Love. Go to RachelPanay.com for more info.

Let's Do It! (Remixes) Noa Tylo (Climax)

Noa Tylo's original full-length album, also titled "Let's Do It", was released earlier this year. Now pop's bad boy takes his beats to the dancefloor with the release of the CD single of the same name. The album features eight versions of the track, four of which are brand new, in varying genres and styles for disc jockeys to play at different hours of the night. Included are brilliant mixes by Montreal's mega DJ/Producer Mark Anthony, an uplifting percussion mix by Spain's Miguel Picasso, and a smooth underground tribal mix by Brazil's Rafe Nunes. Go to NoaTylo.com for more info.

Stallion's DJ Barry Shakes Up End of Summer

Erika Jayne

I have a new lady in the spot light for this issue. Atlanta born Erika Jayne rides into the charts with the single "Rollercoaster". She was a big hit when she debuted the song in this year's Winter Music Conference in Miami. Erika has a mellow, sultry, and kind of seductive voice as you will find out when she takes you for a ride on her rollercoaster song.

In the big cities it is a runaway hit song for her in the dance clubs. Many must have liked what they have heard. Some very good producers of music have jumped out the remix the song for the dance song fans. Among the best remixes is Eric Kupper and Mark Knight. The song is a mainstream club tune that will be enjoyed by most club music enthusiasts. September is when her full length CD "Pretty Mess" will be released. Keep an eye on Erika because she is bound to return to take you for another ride with another hit song.

CeCe Peniston

Club legend CeCe Peniston returns to the sceen on the Soul Shakers new song "Shame Shame Shame". You may remember Miss Peniston for her mega club hits "Finally" and "We Got A Love Thang". This is a soulful uptempo song that stands out only because of CeCe voice. The song is kind of plain and simple. Hopefully CeCe will try again because this song will probably come and go pretty fast.

Kat DeLuna & Elephant Man

For a real toe tapping song look for "Whine Up" by Kat DeLuna Featuring Elephant Man. The progressive house club mix from Johnny Vicious is thumping. Johnny keeps the original flavor of the song and gives it some healthy heavy house beats. Some good vocal chanting and a repeating chorus will have you singing along in no time.

Amuka

Club music mistress Amuka is back with the chart climbing song called "My Man". Sheila Brody from Detroit is the voice behind the stage name Amuka. Once again she doesn't stray from her usual sound. Her heavy vocals fill the song with some nice house beats. This time around she is singing about her man and how she likes him and what she needs from him. The song is good but it won't top her super club hit "Appreciate Me".

C&C Music Factory

What do you do when you can't come up with anything new? You redo an old hit. The old C&C Music Factory song "Deeper Love" returns to the dance clubs. This time Eddie Thoneick with lead vocalist Berget Lewis add some pumped up beats to the song and hope for the best. The song isn't too bad but how can you top the original vocals of Martha Wash.

Magnetic

Speaking of remakes, check out the fun song "Material Girl" from the group Magnetic. The song originally done by Madonna gets an upbeat poppy makeover. The harder beats make the song flow and everyone knows the words to sing along. This Croatian band puts a great twist to an old song to wrap up our summer music review.

here! Films Acquires North American Rights to the Award-Winning *Fat Girls*

Ash Christian's Coming-of-Age Comedy Made Its World Premiere at the 2006 Tribeca International Film Festival

LOS ANGELES – July 16, 2007 - here! Films, the theatrical distribution and worldwide sales division of here! Networks, America's premium gay television network, is pleased to announce that it has acquired North American distribution rights to the award-winning comedy Fat Girls, written, directed, starring and produced by emerging filmmaker Ash Christian. here! Films' sister company, Regent Releasing, will handle the film's theatrical release.

"We are thrilled to help bring Mr. Christian's debut project to theaters across the country," said Mark Reinhart, Executive Vice President, Acquisitions and Distribution, here! Films. "Fat Girls explores the angst and social isolation so many teenagers face as they struggle to fit in during the tough high school years. We hope audiences will fall in love with these characters."

Christian's comedy focuses on the trials and tribulations of Rodney Miller (Christian), a gay theater-obsessed high school senior who has his heart set on becoming a Broadway star. With his overweight best friend and fellow social outcast Sabrina (Ashley Fink) by his side, the pair tries to find dates for their high school graduation dance sending them on a journey of self-discovery.

The film also stars Jonathan Caouette in his narrative acting debut. Caouette'sTarnation was an indie favorite in 2004. In addition, Robin de Jesus of Camp fame plays Rudy, who becomes fast friends with Rodney and Sabrina.

The Fat Girls venture began with a modest budget in Christian's hometown of Paris, Texas.

The entire project was shot in a small town called Waxahachie, about two hours from Paris, when Christian was just 20 years old.

"I am thrilled to be working with here! Films and Regent Releasing on the release of my first feature film, Fat Girls," said writer/director Christian. "The story of the film is one I am very passionate about telling and I'm very happy a company like here! feels a story like this needs to be shared with the world as well."

After making its world premiere at the Tribeca International Film Festival in 2006, it went on to screen at various festivals around the world including the Torino GLBT Film Festival, Frameline: The San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, the London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, the Philadelphia Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, the North Carolina Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, the Birmingham Shout Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, the Indianapolis Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and Image + Nation Montreal, among others. Outfest named Christian the Outstanding Emerging Talent, the NCGLFF named the film Best Feature, Montreal awarded the film the Coup de Cour, Birmingham Shout lauded the film with the Grand Jury Prize as Best Feature and Indianapolis showered the film with honors including Best Feature, Best Comedy, Best Actor for Christian and Best Actress for Ashley Fink.

Fat Girls, starring Ash Christian, Ashley Fink, Robin de Jesus and Jonathan Caouette, was produced by Christian, Kim Fishman and Kelli Lerner.

Mark Reinhart negotiated the deal on behalf of here! Films while Ronna Wallace served as the sales agent representing the film.

For a sampling of previous, current and upcoming provocative and innovative here! Films releases, visit the here! Video Player found at www.heretv.com/videoplayer.

About here! Films

here! Films is the theatrical distribution and worldwide sales division of here!, America's premium gay television network, which was established in 2002 by Regent Entertainment co-founders Paul Colichman and Stephen P. Jarchow. here! Films' North American theatrical distribution is handled by its sister company, Regent Releasing. here! Films is headed by Mark Reinhart, Executive Vice President of Distribution and Acquisitions. here! Films' recent acquisitions include Vivere, No Regret and Eleven Men Out. Recent here! Films theatrical releases include Margaret Cho: Assassin, Guys and Balls, Callas Forever, Beautiful Boxer, Summer Storm, HellBent and April's Shower, among others.

here!, America's premium gay television network, airs on all major U.S. cable systems as a 24-hour subscription service. here! appears in 96 of the top 100 U.S. markets, including every top ten market. here! also became the first gay network originating in the U.S. to launch in Canada via Rogers Cable. here! offers a wide variety of groundbreaking and acclaimed original movies and series plus the world's largest collection of gay and lesbian films appealing to the broad-based, diverse LGBT audience. here! Video, the broadband portal of here! Networks found at www.heretv.com/videoplayer, provides a broad sampling of here! programming. here! Interactive Media, the online division of here! Networks, consists of an extensive network of diverse websites including GayWired.com, 247Gay.com, and LesbiaNation.com. For more information on how to subscribe to here!, please visit www.heretv.com or call our toll free number at 1-888-HERE-NOW.

About Regent Releasing

Regent Releasing was founded by Paul Colichman and Stephen P. Jarchow, acclaimed film producers and founders and principals of the Los Angeles-based studio Regent Media, a 21st century, independent, multi-platformed studio which utilizes its affiliates, including Regent Studios, Regent Releasing, here! Networks and here! Interactive Media, to finance, produce and distribute award-winning and profitable theatrical and television content. As one of the premiere independent distribution companies worldwide, Regent Releasing has provided its discerning audience with a wide array of powerful and thought-provoking titles including The Hunting of the President, concerning the right-wing agenda to destroy Bill Clinton; Callas Forever, a stunning fictionalized account of the last days of opera singer Maria Callas and her relationship with manager Larry Kelly; the Spanish comedy Queens, featuring some of the first ladies of Spanish cinema; and Aurora Borealis, starring Donald Sutherland, Joshua Jackson, and Juliette Lewis. Current titles in release include the Sundance Film Festival Award winner Stephanie Daley, starring Tilda Swinton, Amber Tamblyn, and Timothy Hutton; and ShowBusiness: The Road to Broadway, an entertaining look behind Broadway's curtain from filmmaker Dori Berinstein. For more information on Regent titles log on to www.regentreleasing.com.

THEATRE ROUND UP

HERSHEY THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS 2007-2008 THEATRE SEASON PACKAGES

The Hershey Theatre has announced its 2007-2008 theatre season, including three subscription packages: The Broadway Series, offering exciting touring Broadway shows; the Great Artists Series, offering classical attractions; the return of The Entertainers Series, highlighting blues and jazz artists; as well as an optional attraction, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, which will start the season on September 21 - 23*. This Tony Award-winning new musical comedy tells the story of six young contenders in a spelling bee, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves. In the course of the riotously funny event, they learn that winning isn't everything, and losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. Tickets to Spelling Bee are available along with any subscription series purchase at this time.

The most popular of Hershey Theatre's subscription packages, the Broadway Series, consists of four shows. Starting the season October 23 through 28 will be the musical that won more Tony Awards than any show in Broadway history, the Mel Brooks musical The Producers.* USA Today hailed it by saying "Mel Brooks has put the comedy back into musical comedy. The Producers is the funniest, most fearlessly irreverent thing ever seen on stage!" Then, on November 27 - December 2, film, television and Broadway actor Lou Diamond Phillips will star in a magnificent new production of Lerner and Loewe's timeless masterpiece, Camelot. The musical tells the story of King Arthur's enchanted kingdom, and features songs such as "If Ever I Would Leave You" and the title song "Camelot".

From February 5 through 10, winner of the 2005 Tony Award for Best Musical, Monty Python's Spamalot * will tell the tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail. This outrageous new musical is directed by the legendary Mike Nichols, with a book by Monty Python's own Eric Idle. On June 17 - 22, Mamma Mia! returns to central Pennsylvania, combining ABBA's greatest hits, including "Dancing Queen," "SOS," "Super Trouper," "Take A Chance On Me," and "The Winner Takes It All," with an enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship.

The Great Artists Series will have two internationally renowned attractions, starting with The Israel Chamber Orchestra on February 22. The program in Hershey is scheduled to include works by Vivaldi and Beethoven, among others. On April 5, the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre will perform the full-length ballet Giselle. With a haunting score by Adolphe Adam, Giselle features a company of 50, and tells a tale of love, betrayal and forgiveness.

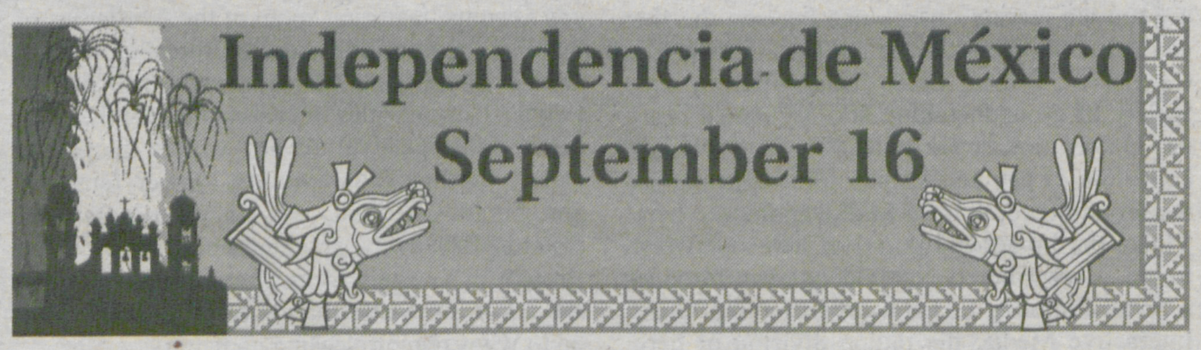
The Entertainers Series will feature legendary blues and jazz artists. On November 10, a concert entitled Solid Blues will present the world's great Blues artists in their first-ever tour together. Featured will be Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Mavis Staples, "the world's greatest living blues harmonica player" Charlie Musselwhite, current blues favorites the North Mississippi Allstars, and New Orleans style piano player Joe Krown. On March 8, the longest continually-running jazz festival in the world, the Monterey Jazz Festival will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary with a concert in Hershey. The show will bring together veteran and younger artists, including Terence Blanchard on trumpet, James Moody on saxophone, Benny Green on piano, Nnenna Feelon as special guest vocalist, Derrick Hodge on bass, and Kendrick Scott on drums.

Lou Diamond Phillips in *Camelot*

Subscription brochures will be mailed out to the entire Hershey Theatre mailing list by early July. All orders for subscription packages will be available by mail or by FAX order only and must be postmarked by July 28, 2007. Orders are filled in the sequence they are received, with priority handling going to current Theatre Guild members.

To receive more information about the Theatre Guild, or to receive a Subscription Brochure, write to "Brochure," Hershey Theatre, PO Box 395, Hershey, PA 17033-0395. The Hershey Theatre FAX line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to accept orders. To fax, dial (717) 533-2882, being sure to include your name, address, phone number, credit card information including its expiration date, and the series you wish to purchase. NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE BOX OFFICE WINDOW OR BY PHONE AT THIS TIME. Orders for individual attractions are not accepted at this time; the individual sales brochure will be available in August. For more information, visit the website www.hersheytheatre.com .

*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Producers, and Monty Python's Spamalot are recommended for ages 13 and up.



Preview 2007

Theatre Downtown Preview Sept. 6

Want to preview the Harrisburg theatre season?

Theatre Downtown Preview '07 is a promotional event to publicize the kickoff of the 2007-08 seasons of the downtown theatres slated for Sept.6, 5- 7 pm, Kunkel Lobby, Whitaker Center for Science & the Arts. $5 tickets will be sold at the door.

Theatre Downtown is a cooperation of the three downtown Harrisburg theatres: Theatre Harrisburg, Open Stage and Gamut Theatre Group.

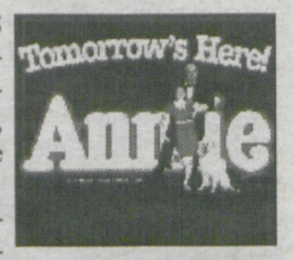
Your $5 ticket buys you two complimentary drinks (wine and beer available for those 21 and over – please bring I.D.), light hors d'oeuvres and drawings for giveaways, plus coupons to the downtown theatres and other businesses valued at over $75.

Sponsors

The theatre preview is sponsored by the Hilton Towers & Hotel, Strawberry Square, the Vartan Group, and Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts.

Information: Gamut Theatre Group; 717-238-4111; info@gamutplays.org; Open Stage of Harrisburg, 717-232-OPEN: artistic@openstagehbg.com; Theatre Harrisburg, 717-232-5501, email@theatreharrisburg.com

Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center Starts 2007-08 Season with Annie!



September 25, the Strand-Capitol begins its highly anticipated 2007-2008 season with the family favorite, Annie, on its 30th Anniversary Tour. The festivities begin at 6:00 pm in the lobby with family entertainment, fun and kid-friendly food. Parents are encouraged to bring the kids, dressed in pajamas, for an inexpensive, quick dinner, lobby-wide fun followed by return of Annie to the Strand Theatre stage at 7:00 pm.

Tickets for Annie, and the rest of the 2007-08 season, go on sale to the general public August 1 at 10:00 am via the Strand-Capitol Web site (www.strandcapitol.org), Strand-Capitol Ticket Center (717-846-1111) or in person at 50 N. George St., York.

Clint Black Oct. 28

Equity Music Group's Clint kicks off his Up Close & Personal Tour on Aug. 23 at the Cerritos Center in Cerritos, CA. Black will perform over 40 dates across the country, including a stop at the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center in York on Sunday, October 28 at 7:30 pm.

Totem Pole Playhouse Does "Driving Miss Daisy"

Totem Pole Playhouse recently presented the play that has been charming audiences since the spring of 1987, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1988 and became a hit Academy Award-winning film in 1990 is the fifth show in the 57th season at Totem Pole Playhouse.

Alfred Uhry's Driving Miss Daisy was guest sponsored by F&M Trust.

"Daisy closed our 40th anniversary season in 1990," says Producing Artistic Director, Carl Schurr, "and the public and critical response was so overwhelming the playhouse added a series of extra performances.

The play takes place from 1948 to 1973 mostly in Atlanta, Georgia. When Miss Daisy Werthan totals her brand new Packard, her loving son Boolie insists on hiring a chauffeur and selects Hoke Coleburn , who soon becomes a loyal and caring employee. Miss Daisy mistrusts blacks and servants and refuses to co-operate but time slowly bonds the unlikely couple together in one of the most memorable friendships ever created for the American theatrical stage.

Mary Rausch and **Keith N. Johnson** appeared in *Driving Miss Daisy* at Totem Pole Playhouse.

Contact: www.totempoleplayhouse.org

Hershey Theatre Chosen By Lands' End for National Promotion

The Hershey Theatre has been the site of world-class productions for 74 years. Rarely has the spotlight been shone off the stage and onto the staff.

All that has changed, because Hershey Theatre was been chosen by Lands' End Business Outfitters to be the recipient of their first "Brand New Look Makeover" contest.

A team of design professionals from Lands' End came to Hershey Theatre in June to give the staff a cohesive, comfortable, and on-brand look. The team included photographers, stylists and hair and makeup artists. The Hershey Theatre makeover is featured in the current Lands' End Business Outfitters catalog.

Hershey Theatre has bought branded merchandise from Lands' End for several years. In the spring, Millie Morris, Box Office Manager, noticed the "Brand New Look Makeover" contest in the catalog. She asked Diane Paul, Director of Community Relations for The M.S. Hershey Foundation, to write the required essays; everyone on staff then tweaked the essays until they were sent in, along with a staff photograph.

The great news of the win came the last week of May. Lands' End described the contest by saying "Whether you're looking for classic casual with traces of tailored or an entire program designed around key colors, our team will give yours an amazing look that delivers the message you want.

Together, we'll form a strategic partnership that will help create a unified team that's anything but uniform." In 2008, Hershey Theatre will celebrate its 75th Anniversary. The staff is looking forward to entering the next quarter of a century looking fresh, classic and welcoming.

Information: www.hersheytheatre.com; 717-534-3405.

HARRISBURG Symphony Orchestra
Stuart Malina, Music Director

Heroes of the Old World

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October 7 @ 3PM

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Wagner - Overture to Tannhäuser
Dvorák - Violin Concerto
Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 2 "Little Russian"

Tickets at 717.545.5527
HarrisburgSymphony.org

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Photo Courtesy of Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre, Indiana

Dutch Apple
DINNER THEATRE

2007 - 2008 Season

Sept. 25 • 7:00pm ***Annie***
Sponsored by: M & T Bank

Oct. 9 • 7:30pm **Ballet Folklórico de México**

Oct. 24 • 7:30pm ***Gypsy***

Oct. 27 • 7:30pm An evening with **Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood**
Sponsored by: Wachovia

Oct. 28 • 7:30pm **Clint Black**

Nov. 1 • 7:30pm **The Ten Tenors**
Sponsored by: Ski Roundtop

Nov. 11 • 7:30pm **Amy Grant**
Media sponsor: WHP-CBS 21

Nov. 17 • 7:30pm **A Celebration of Doo Wop**
The music of the Coasters, Drifters, Platters

Nov. 29 • 7:30pm **Dark Star Orchestra**
Relive the Grateful Dead!

Dec. 4 • 7:30pm **Wynonna**
A Classic Christmas
Sponsored by: Counsel Trust

Dec. 11 • 7:30pm A Spirited Christmas with **The Morgan Choir**

Dec. 14 • 7:30pm ***A Christmas Carol***
Sponsored by: New Standard Corporation

Dec. 16 • 3:00pm **River City Brass Band** with the York County Honors Choir
Sponsored by: A Good Friend

Jan. 19 • 7:30pm **Caroline Rhea & Colin Quinn**
Media sponsor: WHP-CBS 21

Jan. 31 • 7:30pm ***Movin' Out***
Sponsored by: Fulton Bank

Feb. 2 • 11:00am ***James and the Giant Peach***
Media sponsor: WHP-CBS 21

Feb. 9 • 7:30pm *Last Comic Standing's* **Josh Blue**

Feb. 14 • 7:30pm ***Chicago***
Sposnsored by: W. Dale Brougher Endowment Fund
Media sponsor: WHP-CBS 21

Feb. 24 • 3:00pm **New Shanghai Circus**
Sponsored by: The Perform Group LLC

Mar. 1 • 7:30pm *America's Got Talent's* **The Millers**
with The Maxwell Project

Mar. 6 • 7:30pm **The Pink Floyd Experience**
Sponsored by: Stoudt Advisors

Mar. 13 & 14 7:30pm ***Hairspray***
Sponsored by: Glatfelter Insurance Group
Media sponsor: WHP-CBS 21

April 3 • 7:30pm **Jigu! Thunder Drums of China**

April 5 • 7:30pm **Break! The Urban Funk Spectacular**

April 8 • 7:30pm ***Evita***
Sponsored by: York County Medical Society

Capitol Cinema Sundays ***Films return October 7th!***
Visit our website for details and a complete film schedule.

April 11 • 7:30pm **Barrage**

April 13 • 3:00pm ***The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley***

April 18 • 7:30pm **Ricky Skaggs & Bruce Hornsby** with Kentucky Thunder
Sponsored by: Susquehanna Bank

May 2 • 7:30pm **Rockapella**

May 3 • 11:00am ***Junie B. Jones***

May 16 • 7:30pm **100 Years of Broadway**

Broadway Series sponsor: National Penn Investors Trust Co.

Ticket Center: **717-846-1111**
www.strandcapitol.org
50 North George St., York

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convinced the Pennsylvania General Assembly to kill the bill that would have put a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage on the ballot. Then later that year, Sobel worked with a large coalition of groups and individuals to do all of us a really big favor - to throw homophobe extraordinaire, the Keystone State's U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum (R), out of office.

"The greatest gift Santorum gave us was helping people realize how bad he was for Pennsylvania and the nation," she said. "I was thrilled that large segments of our community and allies were energized to go out, campaign, and get involved as never before."

Another victory was the introduction of non-discrimination bills in each house of the Pennsylvania legislature. Sobel thinks there is a good chance of the bill passing in the state House of Representatives before the end of the 2007-08 session.

Sobel also thinks that same-sex marriage will absolutely be a reality in her lifetime. And that's good, since she and her partner of 13 years, Michelle Sperry, just had a daughter.

"It's been fantastic," she said. "For myself and my partner and our family and friends, it's been an absolutely wonderful experience, but it's also brought home in a different way why I do the work I do."

Sobel explained that in 2002, EAP successfully argued before the state Supreme Court for second-parent adoption. She is thrilled to be going through the process now to adopt her daughter, but it makes her angry that she has to go through criminal and abuse checks.

"I shouldn't have to adopt my own child."

And her work never ends.

Libby Post is the founding chair of the Empire State Pride Agenda and a political commentator on public radio, on the Web, and in print media. She can be reached care of this publication or at LesbianNotions@qsyndicate.com.

Social Organizations & Recreational Clubs

Gay & Lesbian Artisan Pride

Phone: (717)732-0233
Contact: Michael Reed
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Calls and Emails Can be made Days/Evenings
Email: mreeddesigns@yahoo.com

Discuss topics important to today's gay artist, Mentoring and nuturing growth of "Up Coming" and amateur artists, Promote art awareness within our own community, Creating and Coordinating group shows. Please email or call with interest/Questions/Comments.

Harrisburg Gay Men's & Women's Volleyball

3rd and Bridge St
New Cumberland, PA
Phone: 717.233.3172
Contact: Jim
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. Baughman United Methodist Church, New Cumberland. Cost: $2.50

Harrisburg Ladies Night Out

PO Box 266
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717.232.8382
Contact: Judy Chambers
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available

HOWL

Contact: Gina Bowers-Miller
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: howlofpa@yahoo.com
Website: http://www.homestead.com/howlofpa/index.hmtl

HOWL hanging out with lesbians. Group of 140 women. Other web address http://groups.yahoo.com/group/howlofpa/ to join

Lambda Car Club Int'l Central PA Region

3623 Green Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717.238.9766
Contact: John Ball
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: Meet monthly at different members houses, call for location
Email: buickbum2@aol.com

Organization of GLBT people who are interested in collectable automobiles

Rainbow Pride Rural Project

2973 Jefferson St.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110-2127
Phone: 717-236-7387
Contact: Kevin E. Burrell
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: kevinb2004@msn.com

This project intends to create support for the GLBT community living in rural York, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry Counties. It is funded by the Foundation for Enhancing Communities and housed within Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit located in uptown Harrisburg, Pa.

Students Advocating LGBTA Equality

Shippensburg University Cumberland Union Building
Box 89
Shippensburg, Pa 17265
Phone: 717-477-1616
Contact: Travis Eichelberger
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: susale@gmail.com
Website: www.ship.edu/~msa/SALE.htm

Susquehanna Club

Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: camp@susq.org
Website: www.susq.org

Group camping open to LGBT people and their friends.

Susquehanna Valley Bears

PO Box 61478 Harrisburg, PA
Contact: John Bowermaster
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: secretarysvbears@yahoo.com or info@svbears.com
Website: www.svbears.com

The Pennsmen, Inc

PO Box 401
HARRISBURG, PA 17108-0401
Phone: 717-232-3785
Contact: Steven James
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Evenings
Email: pennsmen@pennsmen.org
Website: www.pennsmen.org

The Pennsmen, Inc are Central PA's glbt leather/levi/kink social organization. Membership is open to anyone over the age of 21 with an interest in the lifestyle. Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at the Neptune Lounge @ 3:00pm

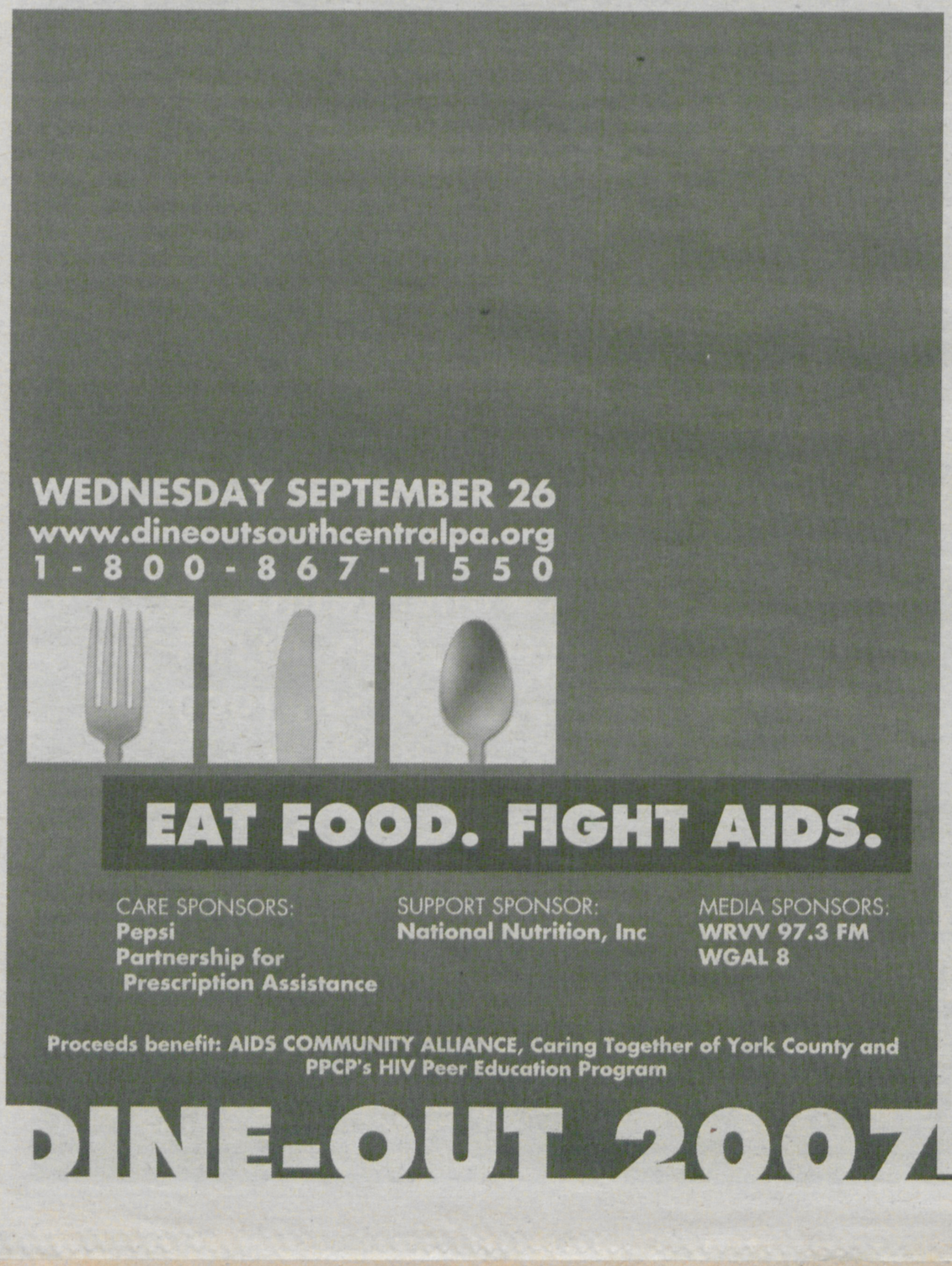
The Rainbow Bowling League

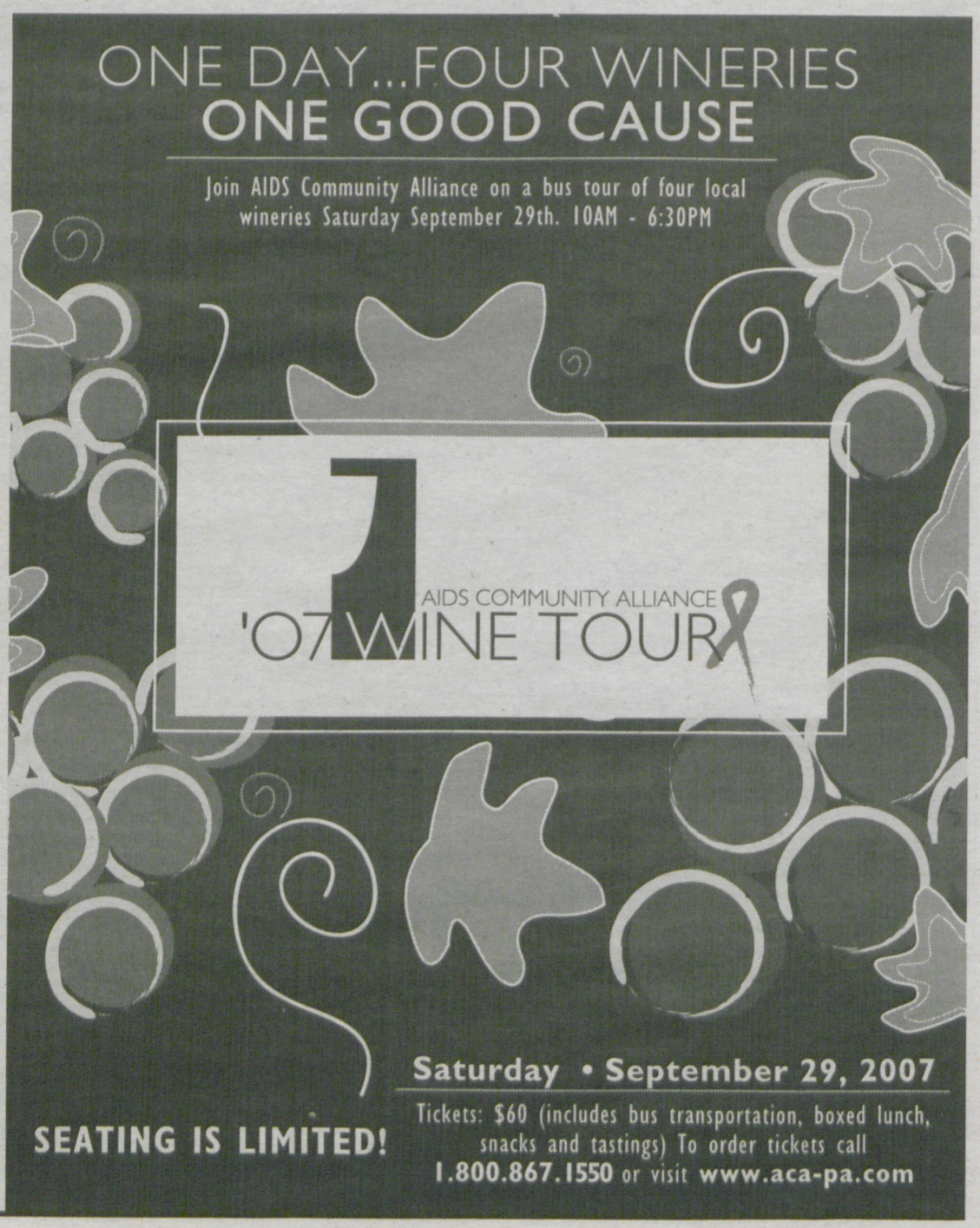
Phone: 763-8444
Contact: Mark or Robert
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Thursday 8:45 P.M.

The Rainbow Bowling League bowls every Thursday at 8:55 p.m. We bowl out of the ABC East Lanes on Eisenhower Blvd in Harrisburg and are considered a "mixed" league: in other words, both men and women are welcome. We would like to invite anyone interested in joining or you have friends that are interested in bowling on Thursday evenings. Call for more details. Openings for individual bowlers, teams and substitutes.

Women's Circle

c/o Bobbi Carmitchell
Locust Lane Music, P.O. Box 8301
Lancaster, Pa 17604
Phone: 717.872.4512
Contact: Bobbi Carmitchell
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: bobbi@womenscircle.org
Website: www.womenscircle.org





Transgender continued

one of the most important reasons people have surgery - to have the right equipment while engaging in sexual activity. A collection of surveys (sample size of 170 MTF respondents after surgery) conducted over 30 years indicated 70% identified as heterosexual, 19% identified as lesbian and the remaining 11% were either bisexual, asexual or undecided. In a specific survey, (17 MTF respondents) 50% were sexually attracted to males; 30% were bisexual or asexual and 20% attracted to females. Unfortunately, surveys of sexual orientation in FTMs after GRS are rare. In one finding (nine FTM's), several had sexual relations with men prior to surgery but were unsatisfied because the men viewed them as women. After GRS, a few respondents engaged in sexual relationships with men. None had phalloplasty, all had undergone top surgery (Double Mastectomy) and hormone therapy. FTM sexual orientation toward men is more prevalent than those early assumptions.

Satisfaction

In an extensive sexuality study, 67% of the trans-women reported masturbation and being orgasmic from masturbation. 65% engaged in vaginal intercourse. Over half were orgasmic during sex and half expressed sexual satisfaction. 25% were unhappy with their sexual lives. The majority were happy with genital appearance, but functioning, sensate and vaginal depth were relative to good sex, orgasms and the overall success of GRS. One study reported 67% of the 42 respondents had orgasms that were more pleasing than those experienced as men.

Conclusions

Hormonal levels in trans women who had GRS resemble genetic female norms, possibly driving more towards heterosexual orientation. Respondents reported changes in their sexual orientation were the result of their "emerging" female gender identities. Other respondents claimed hormones played a smaller part in changing their sexual orientation. In essence, there's a higher propensity towards male partner preference after GRS. A large portion of MTF's transitioned from "heterosexual" to heterosexual. A smaller percentage did the opposite. MTF participants reporting sexual orientation toward women after GRS were more likely to have entered into sexual relationships with women before surgery. Most FTM's in the study identified as heterosexual after surgery.

Sexual and gender orientation are not static and can be a complex evolution, spanning a lifetime. But best of all, an overwhelming majority of trans-people (95%) are at peace and feel complete resulting from surgery, the most crucial element. And the icing on the cake for some: Loving relationships, good sex and great orgasms!

American Road Trip continued

on the radio.

"AC/DC is the ultimate middle finger to the establishment!" he screams.

"Rock N Roll Aint Noise Pollution," a heavy metal favorite, follows.

I roll down the windows, slip on my Ray-Bans and crank up the stereo as loud as I can as I fly past Eagle Creek Golf and Country Club.

Take that, Naples.

A Florida Highway Patrol car turns onto the road up ahead. I quickly roll up the windows and switch to an easy listening station.

After four Cracker Barrels, two Wal-Mart Superstores and the first 20 hits of Casey Kasem's "American Top 40," I spy several police and maintenance vehicles down in the ditch at the side of the freeway. The vehicles are so low in the ditch that all I can see from the road are the flashing bars of light atop the cruisers and vans. Suddenly, a giant bull leaps up onto the road, uniformed police and rangers chasing behind. "Play That Funky Music" by Wild Cherry adds to the comedy of it all.

Billboards and radio ads between Port Charlotte and Ocala reflect the concerns of an aging Baby Boomer generation that's retiring to Florida's Gulf coast, everything from Slim Café diet coffee to no-cut varicose vein treatment to bariatric surgery. Song: "Born to Be Wild" by Steppenwolf.

I pass the Oscar Mayer wienermobile, broken down at the side of the road. (I don't give rides to strange weenies.)

The Sharpie-mobile buzzes past me, colorful markers and "Write Out Loud" plastered on the doors and hood.

I spot a cow, this one quietly chewing its cud in a field. It's standing next to a billboard advertising Sonny's Real-Pit BBQ. Suddenly, I hate myself for liking Sonny's beef brisket so much.

There's hope for the unsuspecting cow, however, as I pass a billboard for Chic Fil-a that shows seemingly illiterate cows holding up a sign that reads: "Eat More Chickin." (I think: "Boy, will Katha Sheehan be angry when she reads this.")

Just outside Port Charlotte, I see a billboard bearing the phone number to call to arrange for a no-needle vasectomy.

A billboard an hour up the road tells me that the babies pictured all over it are "God's Greatest Gift" and that there's help if my girlfriend and I wind up with an unplanned pregnancy. Despite the fact that I'm gay and highly unlikely to find myself in such a situation, the thought of an unplanned pregnancy is scary enough that I begin to wonder: "What was the number for that vasectomy again?"

Of course, now that we've had the baby, it's time to find it a home. "Your Home, Your Heart, Their Hope" reads the pro-foster care billboard I see just outside Ocala.

Is this the Right Wing's clever way of subliminally dissuading me on the abortion rights issue before taking the next exit off I-75 and heading for Burger King? Hmmmm.

I see exits for the Ringling Museum, Norman's Liquors, the Museum of Drag Racing and the world-famous Café Risque ("Free Trucker Showers! We Bare All! Couples Welcome!").

Gospel music fills the car as I pass church after church on this sunny Sunday morning. It's all the usual suspects – Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist – mixed with a couple I've never heard of – the Gloryhill Cowboy Church and the Azalea City Prison Ministry. There are so many churches, in fact, that the T-shaped telephone poles start to look like crucifixes. I switch the station and "We Are Family" by the Pointer Sisters appears.

I pass a Bible sale and a car bearing a "Jesus" license plate while I consider the world of mysticism and pagan magic, courtesy of an NPR magazine program that has suddenly drawn my attention.

Shivers Funeral Home, Yuki Japanese Restaurant, the Western Motel (with a staff from East India) … how much more ironic can this get?

I spy the yard of a Georgia University bulldogs fan. The homeowner has posted a big metal "Go Dawgz!" sign on his lawn, showing a cartoon bulldog with a spike collar, ballcap and broad smile. Ten minutes later, I spy a pit bull laying dead at the side of the road. I let out a gasp, then wonder why my reaction to seeing a dead raccoon or possum at the side of the road isn't as pronounced. Go Dawgz. (frown)

The sun is setting as I cross the Alabama-Mississippi line.

I laugh as I near the city of Climax. I plan to hear a lot of moaning and squeaky bedsprings as I ride down Main Street.

Should I make one last stop before entering Natchez? Sweet Basil's Health Hut, nothing more than a Photo-Mat drive-thru window redesigned into a health food store, sure looks tempting. I could use a haircut: Mane Thang Hair & Barber should do the trick, especially if I can take on a Mississippi dialect and pronounce "thang" correctly. Eye Savers is having a "buy-one-get-one-free" sale (could be on eyes … I don't know).

In the distance, I see a large Confederate flag slowly waving in the hot Southern breeze.

I take this as my cue to drive nonstop into Natchez, end the road trip, find a hotel and lock the door.

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prizes for best costumes

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- Tuesday sept 11th trivia twister night 9pm free samples of smirnoff twister, prizes, and give-a-ways
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- Sunday sept 16th send off show for Tequila Daniels and Domina Dupree St James 10pm
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- Friday and saturday sept 21st & 22nd Captain Morgan Weekend Promotion
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- Saturday the Captain himself will be here
- Saturday sept 22nd guest DJ Mike Reimer from Maryland 10pm
- Wednesday oct 17th parrot bay promotion 10pm
- thursday oct 18th amateur strip night 11pm win $75

Saturday Oct 27th
Night of the living gays
costume dance party with
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Real Estate Auction- Barbour County, WV- Almost Heaven, Saturday, August 25. 12 tracts sell ABSOLUTE. 33 prime riverfront and river view tracts, 2-14 acres, Retreat at Middle Fork River. 42 mountain and lake view tracts, 2-22 acres, Teter Lake & Bear Ridge Estates. Gorgeous long range views. Purchase your dream/vacation homesite in Wild, Wonderful, WV. Boyd Temple (WV#1202). www.woltz.com. Woltz & Associates, Inc., Broker & Auctioneers 800-551-3588. Roanoke, VA

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